

THE  
TRAVELS  
AND  
ADVENTURES  
OF

*William Bingfield, Esq;*

CONTAINING,

As surprising a Fluctuation of Circumstances, both by Sea and Land, as ever befel one Man.

WITH

An accurate Account of the Shape, Nature, and Properties of that most furious, and amazing Animal, the DOG-BIRD.

---

Printed from his own MANUSCRIPT.

---

V O L. II.

---

L O N D O N :

Printed for E. WITHERS, at the *Seven Stars*, in *Fleet-Street*; and R. BALDWIN, at the *Rose*, in *Pater-noster-Row*. M.DCC.LIII.





---

---

THE  
CONTENTS  
OF THE  
SECOND VOLUME.

CHAP. I. *FLY with Speed. Malack's Tenderness. Author's Reflections on Greatness. Distress for Food. Relieved by Malack. Under exquisite Torments. Tokens of his Love. Manner of their March. Page 1*

CHAP. II. *Provision spent. Lucky Acquest. Bold Action of Malack. Provided with a Supply. Reflections on the Value of temporal Things. Malack stands Cook. Reflection on the Uneasiness Affluence creates. 12*

CHAP. III. *Malack discovers three Men, and an Elephant. Preparations for receiving them. Expose themselves to them. Their Assistance craved by a Lady, then Prisoner. Resolve to free the Lady. Author knocks one Man down. Author disabled by the Elephant. Malack disables a Turk. Elephant flies with the Lady. Releases her. Compliments thereon. 20*

CHAP. IV. *No Provision. La Bruce hints at some on the Elephant. Malack recovers it. Let*

*the Elephant loose. Pursue their Travels. Come to an Hermit's Cell. His Obstinacy. Lodge in a Thicket. Have Company. Travel with them. See a Flight, and Pursuit on the Desert. Lose their Guides. Overtaken by them and others. One carries off Sally. Author pursues. Recovers her.*

35

CHAP. V. *They ride off. Enter a Wood, and a River. Ascend another Wood. Are preserved. Escape. Live on Berries. Fear Robbers. Are relieved by the Death of an Elephant. Arrive at a Plantation.*

49

CHAP. VI. *Meet an Army of the King of Melinde. Sally taken upon the King's Elephant. Author enrolled among his Soldiers. Sally refuses Compliance. Author sentenced to be beheaded. Interview of the Author and Sally. Brought forth to Execution. Respited. King charmed with their Constancy. Afraid to enquire after Sally.*

63

CHAP. VII. *Author gets Leave to view the Enemies Situation. Craves Men for an Expedition. Are granted him. Plants them so as to turn the Battle in their Favour. Takes the Enemy-King Prisoner. Abluffcar amazed at it. Makes the Author his General. Resolved to triumph for his Victory. Order of it. Sally sees the Author enter in Triumph. Great Favour of the King.*

75

CHAP. VIII. *Account of Sally since she left the Author. Abluffcar consults the Author about putting the Captive-King to Death. His Arguments thereon. Prevails for dismissing him graciously. Message by the Author to Fu-Nabib.*

His

# CONTENTS.

v

- His Reception. Their Discourse. Sets him at Liberty for an Audience with Abluffcar.* 88
- CHAP. IX. *Author's Instruction to Abluffcar pursued. Kings meet. Fu-Nabib sent Home with Presents. General Murmur of the Nobles at it. War proclaimed with the Ganzites. Author in extreme Danger. His Advice to seek Fu-Nabib's Aid. Rejected. Complied with. Gain Assistance. Prosecute the War with Spirit. Releases La Bruce. Meets with Malack. Return Conquerors. Make Peace. Death of Sally. His Proceedings approved.* 100
- CHAP. X. *Author's Melancholy. Account of La Bruce and Malack. La Bruce, her Story. Her Reflections on her Condition among Robbers. Assault upon her. Kills the Ravisher. Her Apprehensions from the Fact. Resolves to stand to the Truth.* 115
- CHAP. XI. *La Bruce's Terrors. Robbers pardon the Fact. Sent to Ganze. Discourse on returning to England. Gets the Confidence of a Portugueze Factor. Contrives an Escape by his Means. Dispatches the Portugueze Concerns with the King.* 125
- CHAP. XII. *The Author discourses La Bruce about the Portugueze. Fears she was in Love with him. Author intended to marry her. Misunderstanding of each other. Declares himself for Marriage. Her Answer. Form Schemes for escaping. Deceives the Court. Flies with La Bruce and Malack to the Portugueze Factory.* 134

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII. *Well received by the Factory. Invite them to his Wedding with La Bruce. Gomez threatens the Author. La Bruce terrified. Informs the Author of it. Takes Measures for his Defence. Kind Professions of Crisalvo. Gives Malack Instructions. Beset by Assassins. Kills two of them. Takes the third Prisoner. Prisoner kept in Custody. Author dismissed.* 143

CHAP. XIV. *La Bruce distracted with Fears. Author is wounded. Discourse between them. Author acquitted by the whole Factory. Marries La Bruce. Abluffcar sends to demand him. Shipped off by the Portugeze. Think themselves happy. Are followed by a Pyrate. Resolve to defend themselves. La Bruce dresses as a Sailor. Are taken. Sail for Madagascar. Prisoners seize the Vessel.* 157

CHAP. XV. *Know little of Navigation. Sail Eastward. Set the Crew on Shore. Archer relates his Story. Short Allowance. Distressed for Food. Horrid Catastrophe. Behead and pickle one of the Crew. Are greatly cheared at it. Reflections on over-eating.* 171

CHAP. XVI. *Reflections on the Inordinacy of the human Passions. Captain proposes Lots who shall die for the rest. Fell upon La Bruce. Distress of the Author. Struggles at parting. Relieved by the Capture of a large Fish. Description of it. Espy a Sail. The Dutchman relieves the Crew. Takes the Author. La Bruce, and Malack on Board.* 184

CHAP. XVII. *Relation of an Adventure of the Captain's. Took up a black Woman many Leagues*



# CONTENTS:

vii

*Leagues at Sea. Produces her. She proves Malack's Mistress. Tokens of their Affection. He recounts her Story. Agree never to leave the Author.* 196

**CHAP. XVIII.** *Touch at one of the Spice Islands. Captain sends for Hormunka on Shore. Sells her there. Leaves the Author and Malack on Shore. Carries off La Bruce. Author mad at being so tricked. Hires a Vessel to sail after her to Malabar. A Tempest the Night before he sails. Author is raving for the Delay. Hear a Ship in Distress. Go on Board her. Finds his Wife. Bring the Ship to Port.* 209

**CHAP. XIX.** *La Bruce cut to the Heart. Gives Account of the Captain's Behaviour. Reflections on the right to make Slaves. Recover Hormunka. Sail to Malabar. Meet a Kinsman of La Bruce's. Gains an Account of her Family.* 225

**CHAP. XX.** *Arrive at Brest. Visit La Bruce's Mother. She dies. Leaves her her Riches. Sail for England. Seek the Author's Mother in Suffolk. Find her in the Park. Faints at Sight of her Son. Introduces La Bruce to her. Account of the Author's Children, and of Malack.* 236

THE



CHAPTER I

The first part of the book is devoted to a description of the various species of the genus. The author begins with a general description of the genus, and then proceeds to describe each species in detail. The descriptions are given in a clear and concise manner, and are accompanied by illustrations of the various parts of the animal. The illustrations are of excellent quality, and are well adapted to the text. The author also gives a list of the localities where each species was found, and a list of the names of the collectors. This information is of great value to the reader, and is well presented. The book is a valuable addition to the literature on the genus, and is well worth a study.

The second part of the book is devoted to a description of the various species of the genus. The author begins with a general description of the genus, and then proceeds to describe each species in detail. The descriptions are given in a clear and concise manner, and are accompanied by illustrations of the various parts of the animal. The illustrations are of excellent quality, and are well adapted to the text. The author also gives a list of the localities where each species was found, and a list of the names of the collectors. This information is of great value to the reader, and is well presented. The book is a valuable addition to the literature on the genus, and is well worth a study.

THE



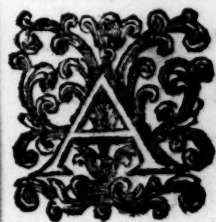
THE  
TRAVELS  
OF

*William Bingfield, Esq;*

---

CHAP. I.

*Fly with Speed. Malack's Tendernefs. Author's Reflections on Greatnefs. Distrefs for Food. Relieved by Malack. Under exquisite Torments. Tokens of his Love. Manner of their March.*



AS we were at first resolved, not to want Time for the Dispatch of the former Part of our Sentence; so being now entirely fresh, we had not only exceeded the Limits of four  
VOL. II. B Miles,

Miles, but of three Times four, by Morning. Here it was that we made the first Halt, at the Foot of an Hill, from the higher Parts of which issued a most delightful Rill of Water, which falling near us, and thence separating the grassy Sod by its serpentine Meanders, as it passed a-cross a Plain beneath us, discharged itself into a fine Stream at about Half a Mile before us.

We were no sooner sat, than we looked up to Heaven, for that Protection which was denied us by Man; and submitting ourselves to the Disposal of the great Ruler of the Globe, seemed well contented to wait the Methods of his Providence over us. We had scarce ended our Ejaculations, when *Malack*, after the kindest Manner, making Enquiry how we did, produced the Provision he had (unknown to us) collected for us, by opening his Pack, whose Contents were such cold Meats of several Sorts, as we had in the  
House

WILLIAM BINGFIELD, *Esq*; 3

House at our Departure, and a Quantity as yet undress'd.

This good Creature observing our Concern on his Account, (for indeed we were both very uneasy for the Hardships which his Tenderness for us must subject him to) begged us to take no Care for him, but to keep up our Spirits by feeding heartily; that for his Part, he could be content with very small Allowance, and then, it would hold out the longer for us; but we being unwilling to be out-done by *Malack* in Generosity, obliged him to take equal Shares with us, not only in Food, but Rest; and finally, of every other Refreshment: But as for the Burthen of the Baggage, he not only claimed, but insisted on that, as his own proper Employment.

Having received this comfortable Relief, we again called to Mind our Sentence, and that we had but five Days more to perform it in; but how far the Kingdom extended,



4      *The* T R A V E L S   *of*

or by which Rout we should attain to the nearest Frontiers, we were wholly ignorant.

“ Poor, simple, *Melchi*, said I, What ?

“ could’st thou imagine that I craved the

“ Weight of a Diadem ? A Crown of

“ Thorns it proves to most Heads that

“ bear it. The Prospect may delight

“ thee, but take Care that its Circle bruises

“ not thy Brain, and crushes thy Intellects

“ to Confusion. No, *Melchi*, reign in

“ what Splendor thou may’st, I should

“ never either have-envied, or distressed

“ thee. What is this Lust of Power,

“ that Mankind should run such violent

“ Lengths for its Fruition ? It is but to

“ divest ourselves of all Humanity, and,

“ like the Lord of Beasts, to subject all

“ Inferiors to our rapacious Paws, to Ra-

“ pine, Slaughter and Violence, at the li-

“ centious Will of one sole Being ; not as

“ if himself was made with the World,

“ and other his Fellow-Creatures ; but as

“ if himself had formed the Globe, and

“ all



“ all its Furniture, for his own Emolument.”

When we had settled the Course of our future Rout, directly in the Line we had set out in, as the most probable Means of discharging *Kronomo* of us, we arose and moved on again, unwilling to subject ourselves to the Pain of Death, by Disobedience ; so that we made only such necessary Stops as Nature demanded, and those of as short Duration as possible, for the first eight or ten Days, some Time before which our Provisions had failed us ; and now we first (through meer Necessity) regretted the Loss of our Birds, having seen various Kinds of Beasts, which, by their Means, might have been serviceable to us.

We had entered on our ninth Day, having for the two last tasted little more than Water, and I own I began to be so very faint and sickish, that I was not apprehensive

6      *The* T R A V E L S *of*

five of holding out to travel much longer ; but my Wife having as yet shewn no Tokens of Uneasiness, I refrained from Complaint to her ; nevertheless, near the Close of the Evening, I hinted privately to *Malack*, that by the sinking of my Strength and Spirits, I much questioned whether I should be able to hold out for another Day.

The loving Fellow was under such Anxiety for me, that I thought he would have gone wild ; he ran to the Plains, the Bushes, the Woods, not well knowing whither he went ; but there was neither Fruit, nor ought else to administer to my Wants ; till having been absent a full Hour, we began to be under no little Concern what was become of him ; at length, as we were sitting among the Trees, *Sally* (reclining her Head on my Breast) started up, “ Who comes here, said she, is it “ *Malack* ? ” I replied, that most certainly it was he ; “ But, what bears he upon his  
“ Back ? ”

“ Back ?” said I. We were both at a Stand for the Knowledge of it, till he cast it off at some small Distance from us, when we soon after learnt, that he had found a Nest of Bees, which had lodged in an hollow Tree, where the Combs hung down (in the Manner he described them) like Flitches of Bacon in a Kiln to dry. He made no Questions, or in the least complimented the Owners for Leave, before he made bold with one of these Heaps of Treasure ; but tearing it from its Fixture, made the best of his Way off with about half an Hundred Weight of it. He came not alone I’ll assure you, for he had some Thousands of Attendants about him, who kept up a prodigious Hue and Cry after their despoiled Property ; nor were they tame Spectators only of the Outrage, but before he could disburthen himself of it at our Feet, they had blistered his Face, Head, Hands, and Legs to that Degree, that I was afraid they would have mortified.

*Sally* and I, on View of the Host that accompanied *Malack*, fled to some Distance, with no small Precipitation, whilst the poor Fellow ran to a Brook not far from us, and by jumping into it, not only discharged himself of his Besiegers, but in great Measure allayed the Inflammation they had caused in his Flesh. He ran his Head, as he told us afterwards, under some Weeds, where he could but just draw Breath sufficient for preserving Life, till by the Cessation of the Humming over his Head, he had Hopes that his Pursuers were returned Home, and then he ventured up to us.

*Malack* had as yet performed but Part of his Labours ; for unless he could deliver to us some edible Parts of this Comb, we were never the better ; and this he would venture for, notwithstanding what we could say to the contrary, and soon returned with a Lump of about ten Pounds, which  
he



WILLIAM BINGFIELD, *Esq;* 9

he had broken from the main Cake; for it being just about Moon-rising, the Guard had all retired to their Quarters, save here and there a Straggler, which had been wounded by the Fall of the Comb from his Shoulders.

O the Variety of all Sorts of Elegancies that this delicious Morfel contained! There was neither Bird, Beast, or Fish, that might not be conceived to have contributed some Excellence for furnishing out so agreeable a Gouſt. In ſhort, we were refreshed, enlightened, and became new Creatures thereby; but the Craving of our hunger-preſt Stomachs, prevented the early Acknowledgments to *Malack*, which we ought firſt to have paid, as moſt due; tho' we failed not afterwards to recall the paſt Slip, by ſuch Teſtimonies, as were in no mean Degree pleaſing to him. We inquired how far he had brought it; which he deſcribed to us, when *Sally* replying,

B. 5

that



that she was amazed at his Endurance of so long a Passage, under the exquisite Torments he must have suffered from the stinging Bees, who had not only formed an entire Crust over his whole Cloathing, but his Hands, Head, and Face too ; for that not the least Morsel of Skin was to be discovered on either.

O! replied *Malack* (for we talked all *English*, “ All var well, var well. I no  
 “ sting ; neve die : I sting ; neve live :  
 “ Ah ! dey sting *Malack*, here, here, here,  
 “ (pointing all over him) neve live, var  
 “ well, var well.” I don’t always give you *Malack*’s Words, but Sense ; tho’ some of his Speeches made such Impressions on me, that I can never forget them.

I told *Malack*, that indeed, he had saved my Life ; but added, that if he did not remove the Remainder of the Cake (by Morning) it would be again so covered  
 with

WILLIAM BINGFIELD, *Esq*; 21

with the Bees, that it would be useless to us; the honest Fellow took the Hint, and conveying it to a great Distance off, we all went to Rest after our Repast.

We daily proceeded right forwards, unless when any promising Eminence appear'd obliquely to us, from whence we might command a Prospect, and that frequently invited us up to its Summit; but we always kept our old Course in our Descent.



C H A P.

## C H A P. II.

*Provision spent. Lucky Acquest. Bold  
Action of Malack. Provided with a  
Supply. Reflections on the Value of tem-  
poral Things. Malack stands Cook.  
Reflection on the Uneasiness Affluence cre-  
ates.*

OUR Honey, which had for several Days yielded us a fine Supply, being now exhausted, we were reduced to our former Indigence ; nor could we conceive whereon to build our next Hopes of Succour. *Malack* had taken my Gun, 'tis true, tho' I had neither Powder or Shot to load it withall ; but as *Malack's* Load of Provision was spent, (tho' he would not part with his Kettle on any Account) I still suffered him to carry the Gun, being unwilling to throw it away.

As

As for my own Part, and *Sally's*, the fore Travel and Uneasiness of the Ways, after so great a Length of Ease as we had enjoyed at *Kronomo*, had made Sticks very necessary to assist our Steps, and my own was almost a little Tree, having a prodigious Knob at the End of it; for in Case of any Attack upon us, by Man or Beast, it was not my Inclination to be void of a stout Defence.

Thus armed and accoutred as we were, pensively fauntring one Day, and musing upon some lucky Morsel to present itself for our Food; a large Beast, like a Wolf, met us, with a Fawn in his Mouth, which being too big for him to raise from the Ground, he was dragging it along by the Neck to his Den, or Place of Retreat. I feared lest the Sight of so fierce a Creature should have surprized *Sally*, and taking her by the Arm, I led her



her out of its Way; when *Malack* putting the Gun into my Hand, and at the same Time snatching my Stick from me, ran up to the Creature with all his Speed. The Beast stopped at his Approach, and growled horribly; but not willing to quit his Prey, he turned aside from *Malack*, and was making off, when the ready Fellow brushed up behind him, and with one Blow broke his Back-bone at the Loins; then repeating his Stroke at his Head, he laid him dead at his Feet: He then stepped up to the Fawn, which recovering a little, was aiming at his Escape; but he caught hold of it by the Hind-Leg, and dragged it after him to us.

We commended *Malack's* Conduct to the Skies, for the Intrepidity which he had shewn in the Action; but much more, for that he had brought us the pleasing Morfel his Hand contained: But we had little Time for Compliments, till  
we



we had allayed those Desires which still raged more fiercely, the nearer the Prospect of their Gratification appeared to be drawing on ; for without further Ceremony we skinned, and began to quarter it. *Malack*, then taking the Kettle in his Hand, (which I had often blamed him for encumbering himself with) and pointing to that, and then to the Fawn, “ How you “ boil dat, no Kettle ? ” said he, and was running to fetch Water in it ; but I stopt him, not caring to stay for the Ceremony of boiling, when a Piece broiled would be so much sooner attainable ; tho’ I assured him, that when we were more at Leisure than at present, I would satisfy him, that he had not brought his Kettle so far to no Purpose.

Having prepared our Fire, we were not so nice as some Cooks are, who must tarry till it is burnt to Embers, before they commence their Operations ; for we cut off a Shoulder, which we placed over  
Smoak

Smoak and all, turning it very often by the Shank-bone, which served as an Handle to it, till we guessed it to be enough, on the Outside at least, and cutting each of us a Slice, we laid on the Remainder, till we had picked the Bone : Then sending *Malack* with his Kettle for Water, I fell to work with the other Shoulder, not doubting but we should be able to manage that too.

While my last Broil was going forward, I observed *Sally* to be busy with her Knife, in scraping the Blade-bone of the first drest Shoulder, till she had reduced it to a perfect Whiteness. “ My dear *Sally*, said I, “ pray what Use is that Bone designed for when you have done with it?” “ Why, my Dear, said she, smiling, till “ we were blest with some Meat, it was to “ very little Purpose to look out for Plates, “ but now we have obtained some, tho’ “ it were but for a Meal or two, I am “ thinking to enjoy myself as decently as “ I can

“ I can over it, and am scraping me a  
“ Trencher for that Purpose.”

“ *Sally*, said I, it gives me an infinite  
“ Satisfaction to observe you so pleasantly  
“ disposed ; and I was just then reflecting  
“ what a small Matter, what a little Va-  
“ riation in Circumstances diversifies the  
“ Fate of Mankind, from solemn Sadness  
“ to Joy and Serenity.” “ A small Mat-  
“ ter do you call it, my Dear ? replied  
“ she ; why, this Knife in my Hand, may  
“ (in some Sense) be called a small Thing,  
“ indeed ; but was it to cut the Rope a  
“ Man was hanging by, and save his Life,  
“ he would not (in that Case) esteem it so  
“ small a Thing. We must not look at  
“ the Bulk only, but Consequences of  
“ Things, if we estimate them to their  
“ real Value. Had we lived in Plenty, as  
“ we did at *Kronomo*, we might have  
“ slightly called this Fawn a pretty little  
“ Creature, and have thought no more of  
“ it ;

“ it ; but let me tell you, under the Cir-  
“ cumstances that it is now present with  
“ us, it is beyond what the Crown of *Kro-*  
“ *nomo* would have been to us, without it.”

I was very well pleased with *Sally's* Reflection, but had not now Time to expatiate thereon ; for *Malack* being arrived with the Water, and the other Shoulder fit for the Tooth, we just took a Swig of that, and fell to work again as earnestly on this, as if it had been the first Morsel we had tasted ; till having eaten and drank our Fill, we rolled up the Rest of the Venison in its own Skin, and having tied it safely together in the Cloth *Malack* had brought with him, we renewed our March.

Intending to do great Honour to *Malack*, I the next Day appointed him Cook, for preparing the two Sides of the Fawn for our Dinners. This was an ample Cause of Joy to *Malack*, and with the utmost Sedulity he procured us, not only a good  
boiled



boiled Meal of Meat, but a Mefs of excellent Broth into the Bargain. It would have raifed an immoderate Laughter in an indifferent Spectator, to have beheld us (who had lived like Princes at *Kronomo*, with Veffels of all Sorts, and for every imaginable Ufe, about us) lying flat on our Bellies, bending the great Kettle forwards, and fipping the Broth from the crocky Lips of it: But thofe Things made no Impreffion upon us now; fave that they demonftrated how idly, and insignificantly People behave in Affluence, by creating to themfelves ten times that Difficulty and Difquiet at every Incident in Life, nay, and at the very felf-fame Accidents too, that others in a different Station embrace, with the fublimeft Guft and Satisfaction.

## C H A P III.

*Malack discovers three Men, and an Elephant. Preparations for receiving them. Expose themselves to them. Their Assistance craved by a Lady, then Prisoner. Resolve to free the Lady. Author knocks one Man down. Author disabled by the Elephant. Malack disables a Turk. Elephant flies with the Lady. Releases her. Compliments thereon.*

WE had now led this wandering Life for above three Months, without the least visible Prospect of an End to it; when one Morning, *Malack*, who was always stirring and looking about him before *Sally* and I arose, came running to us, almost out of Breath. “O, neve, said he, “tre Mans come, tre Mans come.” We not being well awake, could not tell what he would be at; till pointing to the Place, we understood that three Men were coming,

ing, with a great Beast ; for which having only his own Country Name, neither *Sally* nor I could make it out ; but supposed, by his raising his Hand so high at naming the Beast, that it must have been some Camel, or Dromedary. However, somewhat was to be done, and speedily too ; for we must either appear, or fly ; and the latter, after so much Solitude as we had passed through, for introducing ourselves to the living World, seemed very irksome to us.

I asked *Malack* if the Men were armed ; he told me, no, only he that led the Beast had a long Staff in his Hand, and the others Sticks, for walking. I then enquired what Colour they were of ? He said between himself and me, like the People of *Kronomo*. Surely, thinks I, we are upon the Coast of *Barbary*, or *India* ; for we can never be all this while be on an Island ; we must have arrived at the Sea,  
in

in so long a direct Walk as we have taken, had it not been on the Continent.

I came then to a Resolution of shewing myself to them, telling *Sally*, that if they had ever seen a Gun, and were apprized of its Use, they having none with them, and not knowing but mine might be charged, would be cautious how they ventured to oppose us ; and then, it was more than probable, that they might be civilized People, of a peaceable Disposition, and ready to do us a good Turn ; from whom we might not only gain Directions to some populous City, but be informed of the Names and Manners of the Inhabitants ; upon all which Accounts, we would expose ourselves. I took the Gun myself, ordering *Malack* to bear my Stick, and to keep himself within Reach of me, in Case I should want it ; and I desired *Sally* to rouse up her Courage, and stand by us, as valiant (at least in Appearance) as either of us.

Thus



Thus having regulated my small Forces, and gained Information of the Tendancy of their March, I chose to fall in with them rather by Side advance, on a sudden, than to meet them directly, which might give them more Time for Preparation.

We waited till they appeared at the Extremity of a Thicket of Bushes, behind which we had sheltered ourselves; then bolting out upon them at once, there appeared to be a Person heading an Elephant, with a close Litter on its Back, and two more Men walking, one on each Side the Beast.

I gave a smart Hem before they had espied us, on which (being very near us) they all started, but still kept on their Way, bowing to us, and lifting their Hands to their Heads; when observing them to be (at least) as surpris'd at the Sight of us, as we were at that of them, I advanced to the fore-

foremost, or him that led the Beast, making a Sign to him to stop ; this he first did, and then the others. I demanded who they were ? what Countrymen ? and the Name of the Country we were then in ? But as they understood me not, so they also said somewhat, the Meaning whereof I comprehended as little ; when *Sally*, stepping up to my Side, answered one of them, with which he seemed much pleased ; then taking a narrow Survey of her, he bid her ask me, whether I brought her not this Way, to dispose of her to the Grand Seignior ? *Sally* smiled at the Demand, putting it to me in *English*. I started ; “ What ! Who is it, said I, that presumes to ask the Question ? ” But she turning to me, desired me to refrain from Passion, and let her alone with the Strangers. She then made my first Enquiries known to him who understood her, for she soon perceived that neither of the others did. He told her, that he and his Companions were travelling to the Borders of  
the

the *Arabian Gulph*, in their Way to the *Egyptian Sea*, with a Lady to be transported thence to *Constantinople*, for the Use of the Seraglio; and that we then were just entering the Country of the *Abyssnes*.

During our Discourse, the Curtain of the Litter drew open, when the most beautiful Face appeared, that I ever in my Life beheld, not excepting my *Sally*, who till that Moment, had borne the Prize from the whole Race of Womankind.

One of the Keepers, in a Rage, ordered her to keep back, and draw the Curtain, which she not readily consenting to, he was about to strike her with the Stick in his Hand, when I interposed my Gun; till he insisting upon it, that she should forthwith inclose herself, I bad *Sally* declare to him, that if he spoke another Word, or even advanced his Stick against her, I would immediately shoot him thro' the Head. The Fellow believing me

obstinate, and dreading the Consequences of my Wrath, obeyed; and the Lady drew forward, to the Side of the Litter.

She spoke to us in three or four different Languages, before she was in the least understood; when having heard me speak *English*, and aiming at that herself, tho' she was miserably imperfect in it, both *Sally* and I could comprehend her Meaning.

She first declared herself a Christian, that she was of *French* Extract, but came last from *Ireland*, where she had been about six Months. That in her Passage to *Japan*, she was taken into *Madagascar*, where, after a Stay of twelve Months, she was compelled to turn *Turk*, and was now under Conduct of those Wretches, conveying to the Grand Signior's Seraglio; begging us, by all that was good, to take Pity on a poor, undone Creature, and if possible,



possible, to rescue her from the Hands of her Keepers.

Her Story roused my Compassion for her to too great a Degree to desert her. I reflected with myself, upon the Dishonour it would ever stain me with, should I suffer a Christian (for such I must still esteem her in Heart, whatever Profession she had been compelled to make) to be prostituted to the Lust of an Infidel, when it might be (but possibly) in my Power to relieve her; but here, I took the Case to be absolutely so, those Fellows having no Arms with them. However, not to act rashly, I put the Question to them by *Sally*, how far we were from the nearest Town? And what was the Name of it? He replied, *Mantra*, which was at least three Days Journey from us.

They were now for moving again; but the poor Lady rending my Heart all the while with her Outcries, from the Back of

the Beast, for Pity and Compassion to her, I stood no longer to consider; for I soon determined to procure her Freedom at my Hazard; but then being in a strange Kingdom, where possibly her Keepers were better known than we were; I imagined, that upon their Escape, they would raise the Country upon us, and we might lose our Lives by the Bargain, or perhaps reduce our Conditions to that of Slavery. These Motives, tho' not urged without seeming Reason, were nevertheless, not of Force enough to prevail with me, for a Retraction of my Purpose of delivering the Lady; so that I commanded them to set the confined Lady at Liberty.

They demanded whether I was well in my Wits? I replied, that I was, and would soon make theirs desert them, if they immediately obeyed me not. What! said he, whom *Sally* conversed with forme, shall we, who have travelled so far for his Highness's Pleasure, and at his Command,  
return

return empty-handed? No, we will defend her with our Lives, and secure our Master's Property.

I was in Hopes that the elevating my Gun would have procured some Terms of Accomodation ; but the Conductor of the Elephant making at me with his long Pole, and being conscious of the Imbecility of my Gun, I seized my great Club, and avoiding the intended Stroke of the Pole, at one Blow on the Head, I laid my Assailant at my Feet, who never stirred more. The other two, by this Time, having engaged *Malack* and *Sally*, I was terribly afraid for her ; but *Malack* having disarmed his Man, I was up with *Sally*, before any Mischief had happened to her. He that was disarmed then ran to the Elephant, and ordered the Lady to deliver him the Fire-Arms out ; which *Sally* hearing, begged her to forbear, for that we were struggling for her Deliverance only.

Sally, then turning to me, and acquainting me, that the *Turks* had Fire-Arms in the Litter, and that, if they should fall into their Hands, we were undone; I sprang up to the Litter, entreating the Lady to give them to me; but the *Turk* threatening and storming, and the Lady stooping for them, thinks I, if by any Means he should seize them upon her Delivery, Death must be the unavoidable Consequence: To prevent therefore, further Mischief to myself, I fairly knocked him down with my Club, and then received a Brace of Pistols from the Lady unmolested.

I had scarce taken hold of them, as I was reaching with my extended Arm for that Purpose, when the Elephant observing that I was not one of his old Companions, gave me such a Blow cross my Loins with his Trunk, that I verily thought he had broken my Back; for I was scarce able to support myself upright, or to draw  
my



my Breath, I was in such Misery; but with much ado, I made a tolerable Retreat, and sat me down, being able to move no further.

*Malack* had, by this Time, beaten the third *Turk* almost to a Jelly; for his Stick not being of Bulk proper for knocking down, he had so bruised him from Head to Foot, that the poor Creature cried out for Mercy. The first *Turk* that I had demolished, never wagged more; but the other, being only stunned, was recovering, and about to rise; when considering what an easy Conquest he would now have of me, unable so much as to raise myself on my Feet; and nothing doubting, but that he would make proper Advantage of my Condition, I levelled one of the Pistols, and shot him dead upon the Spot.

Now it was that my Concern for the Lady over-balanced that for myself; for

tho' we had nothing more to fear from the *Turks*, having only one disabled Man of them living; yet the Report of the Pistol having agitated the Elephant, he threw about his Snout, and to my thinking, was collecting himself into such Rage, as I presumed, if not dangerous to us, would prove so to the Lady on his Back, should he run loose amongst the Trees and Bushes.

I ordered *Malack*, to take the living *Turk* with him to the Elephant, and make him release its Rider; but neither Threats, or Persuasions, would prevail on him to follow, he was so dogged; till *Malack* having resumed his Cudgel Argument till he was weary, and the Beast beginning to trot off, himself went upon the Expedition, or it had cost the Lady her Life.

*Malack*, running very swift, soon came up with the Creature, and by a peculiar Spring, with the Help of his Hands,  
seated

seated himself astride on its Buttocks; this enraged the Beast so, that he roared and sprang forward still in great Fury, to which Temper and Motion the Lady's Cries contributed not a little: But *Malack*, turning himself with his Face to the Tail of the Animal, took hold on the Lady's Hands over his Head, then begging her to fear nothing, but to step over into his Lap (he quieting her Objections, by the Signs he made her of perfect Safety by so doing.) She did, as she was directed; then sinking her down, till he could grasp her in his Arms, he holding her there, slid off upon his Legs, preserving both himself and her upright, without the least Hurt, notwithstanding the Beast kept on all the while, at his top Speed.

I was heartily glad to see them both safe landed; for while she was standing in *Malack's* Lap, so near the Elephant's Tail, I expected no less, than that both their

Necks would have been broken the next Moment.

As I was wholly unable to stir myself I sent *Sally* to congratulate the Lady upon her narrow Escape; who also, at her Return paid me an infinite Number of Compliments; urging, that she was Debtor to me, beyond what would ever be in her Power to discharge. I replied, that I rejoiced in Proportion to the Satisfaction I had afforded her, and for that it chanced to be my good Fortune to be instrumental to it; but that I could have wished it had been accomplished without Blood; tho' as it was of the *Turk's* own seeking in abridging the Liberty of a Christian, I doubted not, but that it would still prove for the best; and then disclosed to her my Fears, in Case they had escaped with Life, lest by raising the Country, they should have caused us to be apprehended.

C H A P.



## C H A P. IV.

*No Provision. La Bruce hints at some on the Elephant. Malack recovers it. Let the Elephant loose. Pursue their Travels. Come to an Hermit's Cell. His Obstinacy. Lodge in a Thicket. Have Company. Travel with them. See a Flight, and Pursuit on the Desert. Lose their Guides. Overtaken by them and others. One carries off Sally. Author pursues. Recovers her.*

HAVING all set some Time to compose ourselves, after our several Fatigues; Sally told the Lady, she hoped she had lately eaten, for that otherwise we had brought her to very scanty Commons; insomuch that she was afraid, she would rather have been obliged to us for not interposing in her Escape, than to have introduced her to so starved a Company as  
we

we were; for added she, we have tasted nothing since Yesterday Morning.

The Lady (who I shall henceforward mention by her proper Name, which she told us was *La Bruce*) replied, she was sorry, that she had not been sooner apprized of our Wants; for that there was above an hundred Weight of Corn in her Litter, with Sweet-meats of several Sorts, besides many such Utensils as were necessary for Travellers. We all appeared terribly dejected for the Loss of so necessary an Acquisition; till *Malack* offered his Service to follow the Elephant, and recover the Cargoe, if he had but a Dagger, or a long Knife. *La Bruce* replied, that there were both in the Litter; for that the *Turks* had deposited them there, not to be incommoded in their Walk.

*Malack*, without more Words, dressing himself in the late Conductor's Cloaths, and bearing his long Pole in his Hand,  
went

went off as quick as Lightening, in Pursuit of the Elephant; who by this Time, was far enough out of our Sight; but not returning in less than three Hours, we were all under great Concern for so necessary an Hand, lest by some Accident, the Elephant should have destroyed him; for as yet we knew not how he intended to behave with the Beast, if he found him.

At length, *Malack* appeared, leading the Creature by his Halter, as tame as a Puppy. We were all surprized at the sudden Alteration of the Elephant's Temper, till *Malack* assured us, that just as he expected, the Beast upon Sight of him in the *Turk's* Garb, came up to him, and fawned upon him, with all the Submission imaginable; when he judged it would be the best Way, to make him the Bearer of his own Burthen, and that now, if we pleased, we might either make further Use of him, or turn him loose again, as we should judge most proper.

He

He was now very glad, he said, that the poor Beast had proved so gentle; for otherwise he must have been obliged to have killed him, before he could have possessed his Loading. We then desiring to know how he would have gone about it? He replied, that having leaped up as he did before, he would (with a Simitar which he would have taken from the Litter) have stabbed him in several Parts, till he had fallen with him.

We unloaded the Beast, which Operation *Malack* performed, by mounting his Back, and disburthening him of whatever lay loose; then ungirting the Litter, we lastly let that gently down; and then, considering whether he might be of any further Use to us, we came to a Resolution of dismissing him; for that the Trouble of keeping him would over-balance the Commodity we could expect from his Service; so *Malack* lead him to the Woods, and unhaltering him, left him there.

Before



Before *Malack's* Return, the third *Turk* was dead too, which gave us the less Concern, as justly imagining, that in the long Run, we should be no Losers by it.

There grew in a short Time, such a strict Intimacy and Friendship between Mrs. *La Bruce* and *Sally*, that they became sworn Sisters; for *Sally* told me, that having one of her own Sex to converse with, and bear a Portion of her Difficulties, as well as Delights, was an high Gratification to her.

So soon as I was able to walk again after my Bruise, we formed a Debate, whether we should endeavour to find our Way to the Gulph the *Turks* talked of, or whether we should return by the Way *La Bruce* had travelled; for that, she assured us, would lead us to the Sea-Coast. We could propose no Benefit at all to ourselves by an inland Walk; but then, she not being able to point out to us which Way she came,

came, being mostly shut up behind her Curtains, we might indeed bewilder ourselves in the Search, but had little Prospect of gaining our End by it.

Towards the Close of the next Evening, *La Bruce* and *Sally* walking foremost, whilst *Malack* and I were in deep Conference about our Lodging, and Suppers ; they both ran back to us ; says *Sally*, yonder is a little House ; and a little one it was indeed ; when they had shewn it me. I took my Stick in my Hand, and ordering *Malack* to stay with the Women, I went up to it ; being assured from its Bulk that it contained not many Inhabitants.

I rapped with my Stick at a little Doorway, when a low Voice from within, answered me ; but it being in a Way that I understood not, (tho' I judged it to be somewhat of the Language that *Malack* and *Sally* used to converse in) I called them up to me, and by this Time, an old worn-out

out *Turk* had opened the Door a-jar. *Sally* told him we were Strangers, and desired to be let in for Shelter; but he no sooner beheld her, than he clapped to the Door in a Rage, and would hold no further Parley. *Malack* told him, we would do him no Hurt; but he replied, that he had kept himself from Women these twenty Years, and would not now be tempted.

We promised that they should retire, and only desired him to give us some Directions how to travel towards the Sea, and some Description of the Country we were in; but all was to no Purpose; he told us, that he knew no more the Way to the Sea, than we did; for that having committed Sin on the Spot he stood on, he was resolved never more to stir from it, or have any Converse with that Part of Mankind, called Woman, again; and this was the most we could obtain from him.

I ordered

I ordered *Malack* to declare, that if he opened not his Door again, and gave us the best Directions in his Power, I would fire the Hut over his Head, and burn him in it. But he was so far from being dismayed at my Threat, that as long as he died not by his own Hands, he said, he should welcome Death come when it would. I, judging that the Brute's Obstinacy proceeded from his Ignorance, left him; or believe his Superstition would have prevailed over him, till he had died on the Spot.

We took our Lodging not above a Mile from the Hut, in a Thicket of very close Bushes, and Underwood, commodious enough for the Purpose; but had scarce laid ourselves down, before we heard human Voices very distinctly. I could have wished it had been Day-light, that I might have distinguished the Persons; it was but some few Minutes only, before they were up with us, and entering, to my Thinking  
by



by the rustling Noise they made, into the very Thicket to us.

Not being sensible how many of them there might be, or who, or from whence they were, we suspected that we had been dogged into the Thicket, and that we were now past all Hope of escaping. We had Thoughts, at first, of lying still at all Adventures; but unwilling to be surprized off my Guard, I started up just before the Men had reached us, then ordering *Malack* to call out to them, they demanded who we were? We answering, Strangers, who had chosen to spend the Night there; they replied, that they were come for the same Purpose, and would lie by us.

I had no great Relish for such Company; but as a Refusal might be dangerous, we submitted to it, and they laid themselves next to me and *Malack*. My Mind was too full of this Event, to admit the least Rest to my Eye-lids; I ran over in  
my

my Fancy infinite Inconveniencies which might be attendant on this new formed Acquaintance, nor could I resolve any of my Scruples into our Advantage; till hearing the Strangers snore heartily, I began to hope that their Designs were not mischievous.

We remained in this Situation till peep of Day, when I, who had as yet had no Rest, arose, as did *Malack*, and soon after the two Women; but we were scarce on our Legs, before our stirring had awakened the Strangers, who were to my Thinking, two as ill-looking Fellows, as I had ever seen, with each a Sort of Simitar by his Side.

We enquired of them the nearest Way to the Sea, which they told us was through the Kingdom of *Magadoxa* to the River *Cumara*. They were travelling that Way, they said, themselves, and would accompany

pany us ; but added that we were at a vast Distance from the Sea.

We were just at the Foot of a Range of Mountains, which covered a large Tract of the Country, and not judging it prudent to avoid their Offer, we agreed to with them to the next Town, not imagining it to have been many Days Journey off ; but we had not jogged on together above an Hour, over a most barren Soil, before we discovered to our Left, near twenty Men upon Camels, trotting with prodigious Speed, from behind one of the Mountains, and presently several more, some on Horseback, some on Foot, following in like Haste. Upon this Sight, our Guides almost flew to come up with them.

What could we imagine to be the Meaning of this Flight, and Pursuit, but that a Number of Villains, were in Chace of some honest Travellers ? And by our Guides associating with the former Class, we could  
har-

harbour but a very mean Opinion of them. We still kept on, judging that they would not think it worth their while to follow us, from whom they could expect but little Plunder, and towards Night, having passed the Foot of the first Mountain, as we were entering upon the second, we imagined ourselves very happy in the Loss of our Companions; but the next Morning our Hopes deserted us; for we were then entertained with the Prospect of the same Set of Men, whom we had beheld at a Distance the Day before, with our two Guides in their Company.

It was a most afflicting Sight to me, to perceive ourselves pent up between almost surrounding Mountains, without Help, weaponless, and defenceless of ourselves, two Women to preserve (if possible) from Violence, and one of them dearer to me than my very Soul; and yet, that I must become a tame Spectator of that Brutality, which I doubted not would succeed,



succeed, without Probability of Redress, appeared to my tortured Imagination in the most afflicting Attitude; for what could myself and *Malack* attempt against such an Herd of Ruffians?

Whilst these Cogitations were working up my Mind to Distraction, they had gained the March of us, and the Horsemen surrounding us, demanded an Halt; when three of them alighting, without taking the least Notice of me and *Malack*, they first seized *Sally*, and by main Strength, in spite of her Cries and Strugglings, clapped her before one of the Horsemen, who immediately giving the Horse the Spur, galloped off with her, while the dismounted Men ran to *La Bruce*, to serve her in the same Manner: But the Lamentations of my dearest *Sally*, lashing my Heart till my Blood boiled up to a Fury, would permit me no longer to stand motionless.

The

The Dread of losing *Sally* inspiring me with Resolution, I leaped upon one of the spare Horses, and pursued her, with the utmost Expedition that the poor Beast could make, before the dismounted Men had secured *La Bruce*. I had my great Club in my Hand, and gained Ground every Moment of the Ravisher ; when his Comrades, who were by this Time following us, observing that he whom I pursued was turned into a Pass to his Right, between two pretty high Hills, they struck round the Base of the Hill, nearer to themselves, in Expectation that he would only have rode round the Foot of it, and have joined them ; but we were scarce screened from their Notice by the interposing Hill, before I came up along Side of the Ravisher, and by a violent Swing of my Club, brought him from his Horse to the Earth ; I calling out at the same Time to *Sally* to keep her Seat, and follow me.

## C H A P. V.

*They ride off. Enter a Wood, and a River.  
 Ascend another Wood. Are preserved.  
 Escape. Live on Berries. Fear Robbers.  
 Are relieved by the Death of an Elephant.  
 Arrive at a Plantation.*

N O sooner was the Fellow dropt, than turning our Horses short, we presently gained the Plain again, and, with our best Speed, made for a Wood, which we saw to our Right, at a vast Distance; for either that was to be attained, or we must expect to be murdered, if we fell into the Ravishers Hands again; nor was there the least Bush or Tree to screen us, till we should arrive there, but we stayed not to consider; for having fixed our Point, we resolved at any Rate to attain it.

We never once looked behind us till we were under Shelter; but then the Prospect,

to our inexpressible Joy, appeared all clear in the Rear-wards. Happy it was for us, that the Base of the Hill covered so much Ground, as to delay their Passage round it, till we were somewhat obscured by the Trees: But as the whole Country we had passed, and for many Miles every Way, save to the Wood and Hills, was a dead Flat; they missing us upon the Plain, must be necessarily drawn after us to the Wood, as the only Assylum we could have flown to; so that we still pressed on streight forwards, through the Wood, saying little to each other, save what I judged necessary to keep *Sally's* Courage from flagging, till having gained the Height of the Ground, upon looking behind us, we perceived ourselves pursued both by Horse and Foot; but they were at a very great Distance.

Both our Beasts and selves were out of Breath, and fain we would have recruited it; but having no Time to lose, we resolved



solved to ride on, so far as the Beasts would carry us; for we could but quit them at the last Extremity, and we both looked upon Death as the certain Consequence of being overtaken.

We had now crossed the Wood, when at a small Distance before us, we saw a very broad Stream, which run through the grassy Plain we were entering upon; beyond which, there rose another large Wood. The River looked very wide at the Distance we then were from it, but much more so, upon our nearer Approach to it, being near a Quarter of a Mile over.

*Sally*, perceiving me to ride full towards it: My Dear, said she, Whither are you pressing? Don't you perceive that River stops us? *Sally*, replied I, it is for thee, and my own Life that we fly, nor can ought but crossing that River save us both. Our Enemies, can we but attain the op-

posite Wood before they get Sight of us, will be discouraged in their Attempt, and still imagining us to be lurking in the Wood they must pass, by searching for us ineffectually there, may drop the Pursuit; nay, let the worst come, should they even see us cross this vast Water, few will be so hardy as to follow us; so that on all Accounts, the Passage of this River or nothing must protect us; therefore follow me in, fear nothing, believe but that you shall compass it, and I'll be responsible for your Safety.

We eased the Beasts for about an hundred Yards before we entered the Water, then without the least Demur I breaking Way first, (for by good Fortune, it proved a sloping Shore) *Sally* followed me, and we were near half over, before the Cattle began to swim; but then plunging and by Degrees losing their Feet-Hold, *Sally* could no longer forbear crying out. I seeming no Ways to pity, but rather  
chearing

cheering her, Come on, my Dear, said I, sit but fast, give the Horse his Rein, and you'll be as safe as on dry Land. She followed my Advice, but with Fear and Trembling, till in due Time the Creatures feeling Ground again, we landed safe on the opposite Shore.

We then sprung forward for the Wood, and passing it gently, now *Sally*, said I, what think you of crossing Rivers? My Dear, replied she, I had just now no other Expectation than of drowning; but when the poor Beast began to swim, it was pleasanter than any of his other Movements. Come, my Dear, said I, here's nobody in Sight yet, we'll gain the Hill and defy them.

Having passed that Wood also, we ascended a distant Hill, from whence we could command the further Side of the River; and there (having placed our Horses out of Sight) we lay down amongst the  
D 3 Shrubs,

Shrubs, to observe what would follow. We saw the Robbers arrive in great Numbers to the Plain, by the River; where some rode one Way, some another; but not a Soul of them came near the Water-Edge, or even shewed any Tokens of their Suspicion of our having taken the River; whereupon, I told *Sally*, that in my Opinion, we were free from our Band of Foes, and might pursue such Courses as we should see properest; but my Advice was, for us to travel directly from the River.

We not observing *La Bruce* amongst the Horsemen, or any one like *Malack* amongst the Foot, who arrived near an Hour after, did not doubt, but that they were carried quite off, and sincerely regretted the Loss of them both; but having made all the Remarks we could till the Robbers had quitted the Plain, we descended the Hill into an hideous Desert, on the further Side of it.

We



We were now in such a Country as we had never before beheld; for I much question, whether we could see less than thirty Miles in one unobstructed View, every Way round us, save that to the Hill we had descended, which abounded in Bushes, and Shrubs near the Bottom, with some few tall Trees intermixed; all other Prospects being of one continued bare, barren Sand. This melancholy Scene confined our Walks to a very narrow Compass, and obliged us to keep close under Shelter of the Hill, not only for the immediate Benefit of ourselves, but for the little Sustenance which our Cattle could find there.

There were a reasonable Plenty of a small Berry, like Strawberries, about the Skirts of the Cover, and here and there small Springs of Water, which descending the Hill, lost themselves in the sandy Plain below. These were a prodigious Refreshment to us sometimes, after several Days parching Drought, which we had no

other Means of allaying, but by the small Fruits; but no Comfort which we could meet with could compensate for the Loss of our dear Friends, *Malack* and *La Bruce*.

We travelled for many Days upon the Skirt of the Hill, till we were so spent and wasted, for Want of something more substantial than those Watery Berries, which only washed our Stomachs, without sustaining our Strength, that we could both with Pleasure have submitted to Fate, in calling us from Life, could we but have fallen together; but the Dread of either surviving the other, in our present unhappy Situation, made the Lives of both the more regarded by us.

I had determined, after numberless Wailings of our Calamity, that the very next Day I would kill one of the Horses for our Support, which was indeed what I should most certainly have before done,  
but

but that we could not promise ourselves more than two Days provision, from so large and noble a Creature; for the Heat of the Country would by no Means suffer it to be kept edible any longer.

Sunk and dejected through these Anxieties, Life was such a Burthen, as deprived us even of the Pleasure we had hitherto taken in each other; when turning our Eyes toward the vast Wild, we saw such a prodigious Cloud of Dust arise, as we were unable to account for, there being then a perfect Calm; but presently we thought we observed somewhat in Motion, tho' we could not discover what, and still which Way ever the Motion passed, the Dust followed it: And this still drawing nearer, and nearer to us, we could by no Means detain our Eyes from it.

*Sally*, said I, what will become of us now? Here are more Robbers in Pursuit of their Prey: Let us retire into the  
Wood

Wood with the Horses; for should they discover us, we shall but have avoided one Gang, to fall into the Hands of another, and then all our Labour and the Hazard we have ran for our Preservations, have been a vain Toil. Now what distresses me most is, lest we should by some Means be separated for ever; for you might plainly discover, that the first Set of Villains, had they but carried you off safe, mattered not a Rush what had become of me.

Poor *Sally*, terrified with these Apprehensions, begged me not to tarry a Moment, but to retire. We did so, but led by Curiosity, when we were half Way up the Hill, turning about to reconnoitre the Enemy, who by this Time were advanced within Distance of our Discovery; we plainly perceived, that all our frightful Ideas had been raised by some Quarrel between two large Beasts only; but they stirring up such a Dust and Smother, we could but now and then procure a Glance  
of



of them through it: At length, their Course tending toward the Hill we were upon; we, at a proper Distance, beheld one of them to be an Elephant, but could not conceive what the other should be, it being much short of the Elephant in Stature, and to our thinking like a wild Boar, but a very large one.

We kept our Stations to view this running Fight, till Fortune conducting them pretty near to the Wood we were in, the Fray became very sharp between them; for the Elephant, panting violently, made a Stand there, not able to proceed farther. We observed, that the little Beast, which as I said, resembled a Boar, (but yet had so many Notes of Distinction from that Animal, which we had never beheld in any Beast before, that we were not able to fix any other Denomination upon it, than that of the little Creature) pushed only at the Elephant's Belly with its Snout, whilst itself received such Strokes from the others Trunk

Trunk on its Broad-side, as made our Hill to eccho; and these were so often repeated, that we were amazed at the little Beast's Ability, to stand against them. After following this Sport for some Time, the ponderous Elephant uttering a horrid Groan, dropped; when to behold the little swaggering Animal strut round the vanquished Corps, tofs about his Trunk, smelling, and exulting over him, it was very surprising; till at length, having triumphed so long, and scornfully as he pleased, he returned by the Way that he came (I suppose) to his old Layer.

Our Eyes followed him, till he totally diminished out of our Sight; we uttered our grateful Acknowledgments to that Providence which had directed so unlooked for a Benevolence to us poor hunger-pressed Creatures: And then descending from the Wood to the Plain, we set upon cooking up some of the deceased Beast's Flesh for our Dinner. We first  
cut

cut several thin Slices from the most fleshy Parts, which we spread upon his Body, to be made Use of as we should want them ; intending when we had done, to carry off with us as much as might keep sweet for another Day ; which was the utmost Benefit we could hope to receive from so noble a Creature ; but how were we revived, when in less than three Hours, which we staid there, upon handling one of the first cut Slices, we found it as hard as a Shoe's Sole ; the Juices being perfectly dried up by the Extremity of the Sun's Heat upon it ; and this accidental Discovery put us upon preparing so much more as sufficed us for many succeeding Days, and till we arrived at a Sort of Plantation, there being a plain Crop of some Sort of Grain, inclosed with Hedges regularly made, in which were growing several Olive and other Trees.

Welcome as this Sight could not chuse but prove to us, we were not wholly void  
of

of our Fears and Scruples ; as whether the Owners were a civilized People, or only some of the Fraternity of the Spoilers, that frequented the Wafts. We made bold however with some of the Fruits, which grew there ; but upon inspecting narrowly around us, could discover no Traces of any Buildings, or Habitations, to which the Inclosure might belong ; tho' we had no Doubt, but there must be some such, at no very great Distance ; but the Part of the Country we were then in, being very much covered to our Right, we could take no distant Prospect that Way ; and it being now towards Night, we turned a little out of our Way for Lodging, in a small Growth of Ever-greens, which stood very thick, intending to make further Search the next Day.



## C H A P. VI.

*Meet an Army of the King of Melinde.  
 Sally taken upon the King's Elephant.  
 Author enrolled among his Soldiers. Sally  
 refuses Compliance. Author sentenced to  
 be beheaded. Interview of the Author  
 and Sally. Brought forth to Execution.  
 Respited. King charmed with their Con-  
 stancy. Afraid to enquire after Sally.*

WE were passing through the Woody Country, in a long, but narrow Glade, which as far as we could well see before us, seemed to terminate in the open Deserts again; when suddenly, just as we entered upon the Wast, such an Host of People appeared to our Right, as amazed us beyond Measure; for we met at the Point of the Wood, within fifty Paces of each other.

We

We had so fairly exposed ourselves to them, that it was in vain to fly from them, their whole Van being on Horseback, gallantly mounted. We turned the Angle of the Wood, as they came along by the Side of us, and had passed many of their Ranks, before any of them took Notice of us. We observed, that the Horse, which were very numerous, were succeeded by a vast Train of Foot, far beyond what we could perceive an End to, and that at a considerable Distance from the Van, and pretty near to the End of the Horsemen, there seemed to be some Carriage, or elevated Stage moving forward, with Parties of Horse on each Side of it; but still no one opening their Lips to us, we began to take more Courage, and were in Hopes of no bad Issue from this surprising Appearance; but rather that we might gain some Intelligence beneficial to our Purpose, from the Rear of the Foot, of whom we had purposed to make Enquiries.

At

At length, the Carriage (as we took it for) being arrived just over against us, we observed it to stop, when the whole Body made an Halt; and then we perceived it to be only a large Litter, borne upon a tall Elephant, wherein, under a most magnificent Canopy, there sat a very majestick Personage, who dispatched one of the Horsemen to us, for Knowledge of who we were, and whither travelling. *Sally* answered, Strangers, making towards the Sea.

We not then being fifty Paces from the Elephant, were ordered forward to him on its Back, (whom we presently discovered to be their King) who having himself examined us, and finding *Sally* to be a Woman, ordered us both to be secured; demanding whether we were *Mabometans*, or Christians. We would have replied any Thing for the Sake of Liberty; but happened upon the very wrong, by declaring ourselves to be Christians.

The

The King, then ordered *Sally* up to him on the Elephant, and sent me to be enrolled amongst his Soldiery ; but we were wholly ignorant of their Destination. I had Arms delivered to me, and was clothed in the Uniform of his own Troops, whilst *Sally* travelled with him in his Litter for four Days ; and each Night reposed in his own Tent, he scarce ever suffering her to stir out of his Sight ; but at length, perceiving that he could not bring her by fair Means to his Lure, she having told him, that I was her Husband ; he, in Hopes of subduing her Stubbornness by my Sufferings, ordered my Head to be struck off, in Presence of his whole Army.

This Sentence came very surprisngly to my Notice on the fifth Day, when *Sally*, almost wild with Distress at the Publication of it, (for the Tyrant had assured her, that unless she forthwith complied with his Request, my Head should pay the Penalty  
of



of her Obstinacy) drowned in Tears, was by his Permission suffered to have a final Conversation with me before my Execution; in Hopes, no Doubt, that for preserving my own Life, I should have urged her to Submission; but after the Tenderness of our first Interview, and a Sort of last Farewel, she dried up her Tears, and recovering herself:

“ My Dear, said *Sally*, we have often  
 “ in our prior Distresses, fought for Death;  
 “ as what would minister the surest and  
 “ speediest Relief to us; so that we could  
 “ but both fall together: Now therefore  
 “ is the joyful Day arrived, which will  
 “ present us with the Conclusion of our  
 “ Misfortunes.” What! replied I, has  
 the Brute included you in the same Con-  
 demnation? No, answered she, neither  
 in Words or Intention; but can you,  
 my Love, imagine, that I will survive  
 you? Will not Death, think you, pass  
 as easily upon me as yourself? Then surely,  
 I shall

I shall not be destitute of Means or Opportunity of accomplishing it. No, my Dear, assure yourself, that the Day which finds you lifeless, shall release me from the Misery of grieving for you. I shall fall contented, when you are no more; and but for heightening your Distress, would myself lead you the Way to Eternity. Bear you but up against the Stroke, my Heart is fixed, and I even long to be with you, in those Regions, where we may enjoy an Infinity of Happiness together, which we have scarce tasted here.

When I reflected on her Constancy and Tenderneſs, I was charmed with it; neither could I complain of the desperate Resolution ſhe had taken, or uſe the leaſt Argument to divert her Purpoſe; well knowing, that her Life would prove but a Diſhonour to her, when her Chaſtity would be no more; for that the Tyrant would long make Uſe of Intreaties alone was little to be expected, and to be obliged to  
submit

submit to his Passion, would be such a Blemish upon her, as she could no Ways survive.

I beheld her with an Heart overflowing with Love, and tho' it was Death to me (but in Imagination) to consider her, as piercing her vital Blood for my Sake; yet, I so far mastered my Reluctance to her Destruction, as to applaud her Conduct, assuring her, that myself would receive the Stroke with such Constancy, as should leave no Stain adhering to my Character.

We were then joining in our final Embrace, when as if envious at our Transports, the Tyrant, who had been an Eye-witness to the Passages between us, at some Distance, sent Orders for our Separation, and she was immediately ravished from my Arms; but to what Destiny I was uncertain, nor could we add a Word more, or exhibit any further Marks of Tendernefs;  
but

but by our Eyes, which stole such Looks, as our Persecutors could not well restrain, till we were past Sight of each other.

I was then conducted to the Place of Execution, where my Fellow-Soldiers were drawn up in a large Circle, to assist at the Ceremony of my Decapitation. I was conducted to a low Stool in the Center, where it was required of me, to give my Consent, to part with my Wife to *Abluffcar*, that being the King's Name. I replied, that I never would, but by Compulsion, and required the Executioner to do his Office; assuring the Spectators, that I was satisfied, their Master suffered more by a Death violently and unjustly induced on me, than I myself would; for that I should be sensible of severer Torture from a Compliance with his Commands, than it was in his Power to inflict for my Disobedience.

Notice



Notice of my Behaviour was, contrary to my Expectation, carried to the King; who, upon Return of the Messenger (instead of the Death I even longed for, it being brought to such a Crisis) dispatched an Order for the Suspension of my Execution.

This unfought-for Act of Benevolence threw me into the extremest Rage imaginable, lest my Wife, being ignorant of what had happened, should have practised upon her own Life, before Notice of his Majesty's Clemency to me should have reached her Ears; so that casting off all Dread of my abject Condition, I humbly begged that I might be conducted to the King, to acknowledge the Grace designed me, and that I might offer a few Words to his Ear.

My Spirit laboured so with the bare Thought of the Loss of my Wife, whilst I should remain in Being; and again with  
the

the Brutal Sufferings she would be exposed to, whilst herself continued in Life; that divided between both, I was almost besides myself, when the Messenger, who had made my Request known to the King, brought me Orders to attend his Majesty.

I fell upon my Knees so soon as I entered to his Presence, and testified my Gratitude for his Bounty to me; but assured him, that his Views in my Preservation would be frustrated, unless an immediate Stop was put to the Destruction premeditated by my Wife, of her own Person; which I assured him, should it take place, must necessitate me to pursue her Example; for that I could not survive her.

The King having for some Time weighed my Speech, and observed my Resolution: "Christian, said he, your Wife, by  
" happy Turn of Providence, is safe;  
" nor were you deceived in the Prospect  
" of her not surviving you; for hearing  
the

the Shout which my extended Mercy to you occasioned, and taking that as a Signal of your Exit, she snatched a Dagger from one of my Pages, which was with the utmost Difficulty wrenched from her, before she had sheathed it in her own Bowels; but that you may not labour with further Difficulty as to her Life and Security, she shall have no future Opportunity for any personal Injury to herself. I am charmed with both your Constancies; your Courage hath gained both my Affection and Applause; and as it hath so eminently proclaimed itself in this Instance, preserve it but unsullied in my Wars, prove but yourself deserving of her there, and at my Return victorious, loaden with the Spoils of my Enemies, she shall be restored to you unblemished.

I then most humbly thanking his Majesty, assured him that he had winged my Soul, and each Faculty, with the utmost Ambition of meriting his Favour; nor

could I even covet his Benevolence, till I had deserved it; but hoped that I should neither be deprived of her Society or Assistance during our March.

He replied, that as well for my Sake, as her own, he had sent her to his Palace, under a sufficient Guard, to be reserved from the Dangers and Fatigue of War, where she would be in far greater Security than she could be with me. He ordered me to behave with the same Intrepidity that I had already shewn, and to mention my Affair no more to him. This last Word was a Thunderbolt to me, for whatever my Fears were, my Mouth was from that Moment locked up in Silence, being sensible, that the least future Hint of it, arising from my own Motion, must have cost me my Life.



## C H A P. VII.

*Author gets Leave to view the Enemies Situation. Craves Men for an Expedition. Are granted him. Plants them so as to turn the Battle in their Favour. Takes the Enemy-King Prisoner. Abluffcar amazed at it. Makes the Author his General. Resolved to triumph for his Victory. Order of it. Sally sees the Author enter in Triumph. Great Favour of the King.*

**I** Would have given the World itself, had I been Master of it, but to have been ascertained of, *Sally's* Knowledge of the King's Pleasure towards me; for I dreaded the fatal Stroke of her Despair, while but the least Suspicion of my Death should remain with her, notwithstanding all the Guard that could be placed over her; nor was I still without my Resolves, of determining the wretched and anxious

Life I led, under the Uncertainty of her Preservation.

We were now almost arrived on the Enemies Frontiers, when our Scouts brought Information, that they were encamped about two Days March from us, to our Left, and were very numerous. The latter Part of the Account struck such a Damp over our Troops, which at most amounted but to fifteen thousand Men, that the sinking of their Courage was very visible.

Observing the Resolution of my Fellow-Soldiers to droop, I begged Leave of my Commanding Officer, with six more, whom I had selected for my Companions, to take a View of the Enemies Situation; for I told him, that as the King expected somewhat more from me than barely maintaining my Post, I would gladly be apprized in what Manner I could best dispose myself for his Service. He permitted me

to go; when taking the Advantage of the Night for our March, we by peep of Day discovered their whole Order; so that having made myself Master of the Ground, I returned.

I then desired to be conducted to the King, to whom I gave Account of all that I had seen, and that, by the Compass of their Camp, I could not estimate their Numbers at less than twenty-five thousand Men; but I told his Majesty, that tho' my Inclination centered so strongly in his Service, yet being but a private Man, and acting only in that Capacity, I could not render my Duty so effectual to him, as if I was to command but an hundred or two of Men myself; tho' I added, that my Station in my own Country was, to have the Direction of many more; and that if he would please but to intrust me, with such a Corps as he saw fit, I would either procure him Victory, or leave my Body upon the Plains.

The King perceiving me so anxious, and remarking from my Speech, that I had heretofore borne Command, granted my Request, allowed me three hundred Horse at my own chusing, and then desired me to inform him how I would dispose of them.

I humbly begged his Majesty to excuse me, and permit me to act as I saw fit, and as Occasion offered ; intreating him to take no Thought for me, but to press boldly up to the Center of the Enemy, and make his strongest Efforts to put them into Confusion ; then taking my Leave of him, I collected my little Corps, and by Night marched out of the Camp.

I had observed, upon my first View of the Enemies Disposition, a long Mountain to the Right of our Army, extending parallel to the Plain, whereon we were to engage ; and at about a Mile distant from the destined Scene of Action ; behind this  
I col-



I collected my Men into an Hollow, much about the Middle of its Base, keeping a sure Look out from thence by my Spies, to watch the Enemies Motions, and on the second Morning after I left the Camp, the two Armies approached, within a Quarter of a Mile from each other.

I could not perceive by their Movements, that there would be any Engagement that Night; so that affording my Men all the Refreshment that I could, I marched them to that End of the Mountain, which lay about a Mile in Flank of the Enemy, where we halted till Morning; then preparing for a Push, upon a Moment's Warning, we lay by till the Battle was joined; when spreading out twenty-five of my Men, under the Conduct of one of them, whom I appointed their Leader; I ordered them to keep on a round Trot, with their Line extended, at the Distance of two Yards, between Man and Man, till I should order an Halt.

I led the second twenty-five Men myself, at about fifty Yards behind the first Rank, with Command, for the third, fourth, and to the twelfth Line, to follow each other, in the same Order, and at like Distance. Now these several Bodies extending so far upon the Plain, from the Turn of the Foot of the Mountain, and still dropping in one after another, caused the Enemy to be apprehensive, that more might still be behind ; and not knowing how many more might flank them, lest they should be hemmed in by a double Flight of Arrows, they made a Side Retreat, to draw us all into Front ; but *Abluffcar* pushing them at the same Time in the Van, and my Men having Order to advance upon a Gallop, and draw up in their Rear, their Rout became unavoidable.

The Enemy King used all his Skill to rally his dispersed Troops, but to little Purpose, his utmost Efforts not collecting above five hundred chosen Men round him,  
mostly

mostly of his Foot; which I observing, and calling off my Men from the Pursuit, I drew them into a Square, and marching up to the King, we forced the Out-lines which surrounded him, and pressed up to his Elephant. He fought with the most undaunted Courage and Resolution, killing three of my Men with his own Hand, by Javellins, all which having now spent, he made a Thrust at me with his Spear, which I putting by, and at the Instant seizing; by an unexpected Jerk forced him from his Elephant, the Point of his Spear running, at the same Time, through my own Horse's Neck.

The King was no sooner down, than I had descended from my Beast, and extended my Hand to raise him up, (my Men inclosing us in a Circle) but he spurning away my Arm, was drawing his Sabre, as he lay; when catching him by the Beard, I disarmed him, and using him somewhat more roughly, I mounted him on one of

my dead Men's Horses, and crossing another myself, I (holding his Bridle) galloped off with him to *Abluffcar*, whose Men, save a few about his Person, were pursuing the Enemy, with great Slaughter.

*Abluffcar* was amazed at beholding the Enemy King in his Power, when I presented him; at the same Time, adding, that I hoped his Majesty was now satisfied in my Conduct, and that I had performed all that he had expected from a Brave Man, as he had been pleased to stile me; but that if yet there remained any further Commands for me, I was ready prepared, and would execute them, at any Hazard.

*Abluffcar* shewed such Tokens of his favourable Acceptance of my Services, (for tho he was ignorant of my having taken the King Prisoner, till I produced him; yet he was fully sensible that my falling upon their Rear had routed them)  
that



that he embraced me for some Time, gave me the Name of *Arsbreff*, or General, and kept me, for the most Part, near his Person, for the Rest of the Campaign; for we carried the Enemy King in Chains through his Dominions, plundering and sacking not only his Capital, but every Town of Note, and at our Return drove Home to *Melinde* above six thousand Prisoners.

*Abluffcar* having obtained so remarkable a Victory, was resolved to enter his Royal City in the most splendid and magnificent Manner that his State would admit of; so that we encamped for several Days without the City, till Preparations were made for our Reception; and on the Day appointed, all the Royal Elephants being introduced to the Camp, with every Instrument of Musick, and other Tokens of rejoicing, which the City contained; we began the Procession by a March of Soldiers, then a select Number of Slaves guarded; and so alternately, several Bodies

dies of each ; then Musick. The King's Elephants, two and two. *Abluffcar* standing on his Elephant, with his Javelin in his Hand. The Enemy King on Foot, in Chains ; then Guards and Slaves, alternately following, closed the Procession.

We marched in this Order through the City to the Royal Palace, amidst the joyous Acclamations of the Populace ; upon Entry of which, the Guards and Slaves drew up round the outer Court, whilst the King, myself, the Captive King, and his Elephants, with a Party of Body-guards, passed on to an inner Court, over the Passage, or Arch-way, leading to which, was my dearest *Sally's* Apartment.

The Noise, Hurry, and Confusion of the Day, had drawn her to the Lattice, which overlooked the Arch we were to pass thro', where she no sooner beheld me living, and placed so near to his Majesty, distinguished too by my Elephant, on which Creatures

none

none other than myself and the King were advanced; than she, in her Rage to come at me, tore down the Lattice-work, and leaning out half her Body, welcomed his Majesty's Return, and thanked him for the Mark of his Benevolence (meaning me) which she had discovered, she said, behind him; but we, welcomed each other by our Eyes only, flashing Rays, more subtil than Lightening, to each other's Souls.

I was terribly afraid lest this Outrage of *Sally's* should have exasperated his Majesty to both our Undoing; for these Princes, tho' at some Time they may be led about like Children; on a sudden, they will change their Natures to the Fierceness of Lions; and while they are caressing you, will (from the least wry Word, or wrong Conception) stab you to the Heart; but he seemed rather delighted at her Transport, ordering her immediately to be

be conducted to the great Hall, to meet us at our alighting.

His Majesty being seated, all his Nobles took their Stands around him, and paid their Homage ; then calling me by Name, he placed me on his Left-hand, and the Captive King at his Foot-stool ; declaring publicly that I was his Arshreff, and that his Victory was wholly owing to me, commanding all Orders and Degrees of his Subjects to pay me Reverence, next to himself.

By this Time, *Sally* was entered through the Croud at the lower End of the Room ; when his Majesty beckoned to her to approach him, and himself arising, met her Half-way ; then saluting her, he led her towards a Seat, where he placed her at his Right-hand ; then rising again, and taking me in his Left, and her in his Right, and bringing us both forward, he publicly declared, that he had never met with an  
In-



Instance of conjugal Affection, so engaging as in us two. He then gave me my Wife again : “ And let no Man from henceforth, said he, dare to disturb the Unity which I hereby confirm to you, on Penalty of being utterly consumed, both himself and his, with Fire.” We both bowed, and on our Knees acknowledged his Majesty’s Royal Clemency to us. Then ordering the Captive King to close Confinement, he invited all his Court to a magnificent Repast prepared for them.

Sally and I had a Lodging and Attendants provided us, very near to the King’s own Apartment ; and now we had once more a Prospect of enjoying each other, like the rest of human Beings again.

## C H A P.

## C H A P. VIII.

*Account of Sally since she left the Author. Abluffcar consults the Author about putting the Captive King to Death. His Arguments thereon. Prevails for dismissing him graciously. Message by the Author to Fu-Nabib. His Reception. Their Discourse. Sets him at Liberty for an Audience with Abluffcar.*

N O sooner were Sally and I settled in our new Apartment, than I begged her to inform me of all that had befallen her, since her being carryed away from me. She assured me, that as to her Restraint, both in her Journey, and after her Arrival at the Palace, it had appeared as nothing to her ; she being treated with all possible Regard and Humanity : But that her Sufferings arose from the Nescience of my Fate ; some of her Guards (for there were twelve of them) insisting upon it, that

that I should be pardoned, others inclining to the contrary Opinion, and the rest doubting; so that she told me, her Terror arose, in great Measure, from the Distraction of her Mind, which Point to adhere to; as for her own Part, she said, had she met with no Opposition, she should not have hesitated a Moment at destroying herself; for in her own Conjectures, I was already dead; but she assured me, that she was not intrusted with the least Instrument, that could be applied to her Departure, and the different Opinions of her Guides, by Turns prevailing in her Mind, made her as desirous of retaining as parting with her Life, tho' she had not the least certain Intelligence of my subsisting, till her own Eyes beheld me in my Elevation, next to the King's own Person; which Preferment, by what Means I obtained it, she besought me to inform her.

I then

I then ran over to her the Discourse between the King and me, and my Proceedings, till I had taken the Enemy King Prisoner; with his Majesty's Benificence consequent on that Exploit; which having finished, we gave Way again, to the rapturous Expressions of our own Flux of Passions.

Many Days had not passed since our Return, before *Abluffcar* informed me, that his Courtiers had advised him to put *Fu-Nabib* (that being the Name of the Captive King) to Death; for that should he by any Means escape his Hands, his Country being large, and very populous, fresh Commotions would most probably arise, which would make his Majesty's Nation a Seat of long, and destructive Wars; desiring my Opinion, in what Manner it would be best to proceed with *Fu-Nabib*, either by Death, or perpetual Imprisonment; for that in Case of the latter, he was satisfied, that his Subjects, who  
fin-



sincerely loved him, would chuse no other Sovereign during his Life-time, and that of themselves they would never be able to make Head against him.

Here his Majesty paused, to hear my Judgment: When (after expressing my own Unworthiness and Inequality to so high a Task, as that of giving Advice to so great a Monarch seemed to be, from one of my mean Abilities; and that, in an Affair of such Nicety, as might so nearly concern his whole Dignity) I replied, that if his Majesty would coolly permit me, freely to deliver my Sentiments, and pardon my Dissent from either of the Methods he had mentioned, I would declare my Opinion, without the least Reserve: All which promising me he would readily grant, I proceeded. That I had understood from Fame, that *Fu-Nabib's* Dominions were larger, and his Subjects more numerous than his Majesty's; and that it had heretofore been the Policy of his Majesty's

jeſty's State, to keep a good Underſtanding with *Fu-Nabib*, for avoiding the Incommodiouſneſs of War; and that even the laſt was of *Fu-Nabib*'s own ſeeking; all which, the King acknowledged to be true.

I then told him, that by *Fu-Nabib*'s Death, he would only raiſe to himſelf a new Enemy in his Succeſſor; and as for his Conſent for Life, it was more than probable, that the State would promote ſome Head to revenge his Quarrel; when, if by Force or Stratagem, they ſhould procure *Fu-Nabib*'s Liberty, I need not declare the Conſequences that might even attend his Maſteſty's own Perſon, ſhould he be ſubject to the Captive King's Circumſtances; for that the Fortune of War was various. Upon the whole, I gave it as my Opinion, that his Maſteſty ſhould looſe the Fetters of *Fu-Nabib*, uſe him nobly, take him into his Familiarity, diſmiſs him graciouſly; and that, even upon ſuch Terms as himſelf ſhould

should propose; nor too rigorously exact even a literal Execution of them: That so parting in Amity, if *Fu-Nabib* had any Honour in his Composition, (which from his gallant Behaviour in the Field of Battle, I made but little Doubt of) it would exhibit itself by friendly Offices, and Affection to his Majesty, rather than in the Prosecution of his late Quarrel; or at worst, should he relinquish the Ties of Gratitude, his Majesty could with better Assurance defend an Injury intended him, and his Subjects would more readily, and heartily engage in his Defence, against the Aggressor.

The King had remained very attentive to my Speech, till having concluded: *Bangvell*, said he, (for that was his Method of calling me) you are a fierce Man by your Actions; and yet in Words, are all Softness and Delicacy. I expected, that you would have counselled me to have cut *Fu-Nabib* to Pieces, as a Terror  
to

to his Countrymen, for Prevention of their engaging with me again ; but you are for using him as a Friend and Companion. Whence can this proceed ?

I replied, from a Sense of his Majesty's Interest, and from my Attachment to his Person ; for I added, that his Benevolence would so move my Affection, as to interest myself in his Welfare ; whereas, his Mal-treatment of me, would both rouse my Indignation, and Vengeance against him : For continued I, brave Men are ever endued with humane Natures, and as they are stirred to Emulation in Battle, so in every virtuous and Praise-worthy Action ; for that the same Spirit that works in them the one, never fails to excite the other also ; their favourite Principle being, never to be outdone.

*Abluffcar*, by Degrees, inclining to my Sentiments, gave me Commission to treat with the Captive King, for his Enlargement,



ment, in such Manner as I pleased ; engaging, upon the Word of a King, to ratify whatever I should conclude with him.

Having paid my Acknowledgements to the King, for the Confidence he reposed in me, I took my Way to the Dungeon, wherein the imprisoned Monarch was confined. I found him lying upon an Heap of loose Straw, in the Corner of a dark, noisome Cell, with only one narrow Chink near the Ceiling, for the Introduction of a small Glimmer of Light. The Horror that this dismal Sight occasioned in me, was inexpressible ; when I recollected him in the Light which but a few Days before he had appeared in ; at the Head of a gallant Army, Lord of a vast Territory, and Sovereign of the Lives and Properties of many hundred thousand Souls.

I sa-

I saluted him by his Title of Majesty, which Word, I could perceive drew the Tears from his Eyes ; when rising up, he boldly demanded my Message to him: Whether I came from *Abluffcar*? And if I brought with me the Sentence of his Death?

Puissant Monarch, replied I, (for that you are so, any Eyes can testify, tho' by the present Turn of War, now rendered captive for a Time.) This your instant Fate, but charges your Reflections with the Uncertainty of human Grandeur, and what may be the Change of the mightiest Man's Condition, in the Twinkling of an Eye ; and should teach us all this Lesson, that in Prosperity, encircled with all worldly Glory, and every temporal Advantage befriending us, we should exercise ourselves in Gentleness and Compassion for all Men ; for there is not that despicable Wretch breathing, but in some Capacity or other, at proper Opportunities, may  
be

be capable of distressing us. My Master is clearly of this Opinion, and is in Hopes your Majesty's Sentiments, accord with him; his Tenderness for your Majesty's Mishap has so exercised his Soul, that he can no longer suffer you, a King, his Brother, to taste the Miseries of this close Restraint; but by me, invites you to partake the Delights of his Court, in equal Degree with himself, barely upon your own Parole, for your gentle Demeanour, till such Terms shall be stipulated between you, for your mutual Confidence in each other, as his Justice may demand, and yourself accord, with Honour.

“ Great Sir, said *Fu-Nabib*, you are now  
 “ a double Conqueror. I must confess  
 “ myself the second Time vanquished by  
 “ you; nor can I say, but that this last  
 “ is far the more glorious Victory. The  
 “ Distance of the News you fill my Ears  
 “ with, from my prior Conception of  
 “ Things in my Situation, but demonstrates  
 VOL. II. F “ (what

“ (what hath often recurred to me) the Im-  
“ becility of the human Capacity. That  
“ the Affairs of Mortals are subject to a  
“ superior Direction, I can now make no  
“ longer Doubt ; or the Doom I have hi-  
“ therto expected, had never been reversed:  
“ But that you, whose Prowess in the  
“ Field I am but too sensible of, should  
“ contain two such opposite Natures, is  
“ to me amazing ; yet how much more  
“ amiable is this, than that. You have  
“ convinced my Judgment, that as a Man,  
“ I should submit to the Vicissitudes of  
“ Fortune, and by the Sequel of your  
“ Argument, have reclaimed the Fero-  
“ city of my Nature, and that Studi-  
“ ousness of Revenge that hath hitherto in-  
“ grossed my whole Frame, to Senti-  
“ ments of Candour, Benevolence, and  
“ Amity for your Master. He is my  
“ Brother, and Brethren let us remain, in  
“ Interest and Affection ; I am persuaded  
“ it will be best for us both, without  
“ wasting our Subjects, to vye with each  
“ other



“ other in good Offices ; and methinks,  
 “ I feel, from the Motives of his recent  
 “ Kindness a Flood of Joy arising in  
 “ my Will, at the Prospect of render-  
 “ ing him all suitable Returns, for his  
 “ Friendship to me ; for that I must (at  
 “ all Events) acknowledge it to be, as  
 “ arising from him, whose I now am.  
 “ Tell your Master I am his Slave, would  
 “ be his Friend, and will be his Brother,  
 “ without Reserve.”

Expressing my Satisfaction at *Fu-Nabib's*  
 Declaration, I assured him, that I could  
 not submit to leave him in that loathsome  
 Place, even whilst I related his Answer to  
 my Master ; so that I invited him to my  
 Lodgings, where I said, I would place no  
 Guard over a Man of that Honour I  
 took him to be of ; or that if he rather  
 chose to regale himself in any other Part  
 of the Palace, he should meet no Restraint.  
 He thanked me, but would remain in my  
 Lodgings till I returned.

## C H A P. IX.

*Author's Instruction to Abluffcar. Pursued. Kings meet. Fu-Nabib sent Home with Presents. General Murmur of the Nobles at it. War proclaimed with the Ganzites. Author in extreme Danger. His Advice to seek Fu Nabib's Aid. Rejected. Complied with. Gain Assistance. Prosecute the War with Spirit. Releases La Bruce. Meets with Malack. Return Conquerors. Make Peace. Death of Sally. His Proceedings approved.*

WHEN I had stated the Conference between us, I persuaded *Abluffcar* to grant *Fu Nabib* an immediate Audience, and thereat, to express such Evidences of real Inclination for him, as he should judge proper; and not to treat him too unequally. All which he resolving on, (for he said, as he had began by my Advice, he was determined to pursue it

it through the whole Affair) I introduced *Fu-Nabib*, as his Majesty was sitting on his Throne.

No sooner had the Captive King entered the Hall, and made his Obeisance to the Presence, than *Abluffcar* rising, met him half Way; nor would he permit those Tokens of Subjection, which *Fu-Nabib* readily offered to pay him; but saluting him, led him to the Throne, where he obliged him to sit on the same Seat with himself.

The two Kings thus placed, paid each other every Compliment and Return, suitable to the Occasion; which ended, *Abluffcar* declared *Fu-Nabib* at Liberty to act and behave as he saw fit in his Palace, or elsewhere; but hoped he would spend some little Time with him, before his Return to his own Country, that a strict and indissoluble Alliance, and Confederacy might be cemented between

F 3

them,

them for their future Amity : And that as for the Captives taken in the War, such of them as had fallen to his Majesty's Share, attend *Fu-Nabib*, at his Return to his own should Dominions. Then each King embracing the other, swore Truth and Fidelity to such future Articles as should be stipulated between them ; the whole Transaction concluding with a most magnificent Entertainment ; and from that Day, for about fourteen others, which *Fu-Nabib* spent at *Mclinde*, he constantly ate at *Abluffcar*'s own Table, and the greatest Part of their Time was spent together ; when *Fu-Nabib* at his Departure, being laden with Presents, and the Return of all that had been taken from his Palace, was escorted Home, under a Convoy of three thousand Men.

The Dismission of *Fu-Nabib* had not been transacted without several dissenting Sentiments, which soon after his Departure, spread themselves in Invectives against me, as the Framer of that Scheme ; even till the  
King



King himself was almost persuaded, that he had erred in his Conduct; and where the Flame would have ended is uncertain; for that it would at length have seized me was but too apparent, had not the following Accident intervened.

There had for a long Time been Bickerings and Disputes between the Kings of *Ganze* and *Melinde*, in Relation to the Conveyance of Slaves and Merchandize, from the Dominions of the former, thro' those of the latter, to the Sea-Coasts, without paying any Acknowledgement to *Abluffcar*; and sometimes the Numbers of Men had been so great, as to give Umbrage to *Abluffcar*, of some ill Designs. These Disputes, at length, were wrought up to such an Height, by *Abluffcar*'s seizing some of such Commodities, that the King of *Ganze* raised all the Strength of his Dominions, with Intent to force a free Communication with the Ocean.

*Abluffcar* was in no Condition at present to withstand the Power of the *Ganzites*, by his own single Forces ; and the Country were in strange Consternation ; when I prevailed on the King to apply to *Fu-Nabib* for Succour. The Court were to a Man absolutely against it ; urging, that no fairer Opportunity could be wished for by *Fu-Nabib*, for retaliating *Abluffcar*'s Injury, and the Indignity of his Confinement, than by setting upon *Melinde* himself, whilst it should be engaged in War with the *Ganzites* ; and this they seemed to lay down, as the certain Consequence of any Application to *Fu-Nabib* ; for they held but a very mean Opinion of Faith between Princes.

I had no other Means of diverting this Storm from my own Head, but by maintaining the Steps I had already taken, and insisting on an Embassy to *Fu-Nabib*, which I still strenuously persisted in. Matters growing worse and worse daily, and

no Alternative to be concluded on, my Proposal was at length seemingly acquiesced in; tho' by many of the State-Members (as I have great Reason to believe) from the Hopes they had, that the ill Consequences of it would redound to my Destruction: But I, who could possibly be in no worse Condition from *Fu-Nabib's* sacking the whole Country, than I then expected, still persevered in my Determination of sending for the Succours, which was at last agreed upon, tho' with infinite Diffidence of the Success.

Upon Return of this Embassy, it was reported by the Deputies (in open Assembly purposely convoked to hear and deliberate upon *Fu-Nabib's* Answer) in what a loving Manner, and with what Respect and Magnificence, they were received and entertained; and then they delivered from that Monarch, that he would immediately march ten thousand of his Forces to *Ab-luffcar's* Assistance, and if he required it,

would lead them in Person. That in the mean Time, he would fall upon the *Ganzites* to the Westward, with another Body of ten thousand, which he did not doubt, but by dividing the King of *Ganzes* Force, would so weaken him, as to reduce him to Submission. Adding further, that in Case the proposed Supply should be deficient for the good Purpose designed, he would follow them with the whole Strength of his Kingdom.

This Answer was no sooner delivered by the Ambassadors, than the whole Assembly of dissenting Nobles hung down their Heads, altogether abashed at the Insults with which they had infected the Royal Breast: This his Majesty himself observing, and clapping his Hand upon my Shoulder (for my Office of Arshreff entitled me to the next Seat to him) I have, I must own, said he, never hearkened to *Benvolt's* Advice, but to my Honour and Benefit; and my Lords, added he, be not de-



dejected; for I myself have, from Inclination, declined his Council upon the first Motion; but never had the Power to withstand his Arguments, deduced from thence. You my Lords, have only heard his Proposals, and I marvel not that you have disregarded them; for you have not felt the Weight of his unanswerable Reasons. I profess his Penetration is deeper and his Projects more correspondent to Nature, than my own; which having submitted to acknowledge here publicly to you all; surely, not one amongst you need be ashamed of subscribing to the same Concession. It can derogate no more from yourselves than me; and who is there amongst you all, that will insist upon better Judgment than his Master?

How far it proceeded from a Conviction of my superior Talents, I shall not undertake to determine; but so it was, that the whole Assembly arose, and gave his Majesty their Congratulations, upon  
his

his good Fortune in meeting with me; confessing, that my Way of thinking (new as it was to them) was far superior to the Course and Usage they had been instructed in, and had imbibed as first Principles; and heartily concurred in the Retraction of their former erroneous Opinions.

From this Time their Affairs seemed to have put on a new Face, and in the Room of that Dispiritedness with which all their warlike Preparations had hitherto been prosecuted, never was more Alertness, or Expedition shewn, either in collecting the Forces, or in providing Necessaries for their Accomodation; so that before a Month was at an End, we had near twenty thousand Men in Arms, Horse and Foot, and the Reinforcement of ten thousand more, were on the March to join them.

The *Ganzian* Monarch was so distressed by the Army drawing near to his Capital that he recalled Part of his Troops from  
the

the Frontiers of *Melinde*; which Transaction I having Notice of, prior to the King, besought *Abluffcar*, to let me march five thousand Men only to *Ganze*, in Order to join *Fu-Nabib*, where I was satisfied, I should be of twice the Service to his Majesty's Interest, as I could, by leading his whole Army to the Frontiers; and having gained his Consent, I made forced Marches with such Expedition, that I joined *Fu-Nabib* before he had began Hostilities.

The King of *Ganze* was so appalled at this News, that he withdrew from his Capital, leaving only some few of his Domesticks, as a Guard upon his Women and Relations, whom he had confined there. We plundered the Palace, and burnt it to the Ground, first releasing all the Prisoners; but the Guards had driven out all the Women by a Back-way, which we having Notice of, pursued, and took them, after a sharp Rencounter.

How

How was I both rejoiced and amazed, at meeting with my old Friend *La Bruce* among the Captive Women! She knew me at first Sight, tho' I did not so readily recollect her, till she spoke to me, crying out for Mercy. I then ordered her under a select Guard, and when the Hurry of the Day was over, I enquired after *Malack*, whether she knew what was become of him? She replied, that he was in the King's Guards, and was fled with him at our Approach.

Tho' I had a thousand Things to have said, and Questions to have asked her; yet having very little Time for present Discourse, I ordered her away to our Camp. I then consulted with *Fu-Nabib*, whether we should pursue the Fugitive King? Which he advising to, as the speediest Means of procuring Peace, we went upon the Enterprize; but he having only a slight Number of selected Men with him, and those all of the Horse, we soon  
discovered



discovered the Impracticability of drawing him to a Battle; whereupon we sent him Conditions of Peace, which consisting but of few Articles, he complied with, and *Fu-Nabib* and I withdrawing our Troops left him free Entrance to his Capital.

One of the Articles of Peace was, that he should deliver into my Hands *Malack* one of his Guards, who was to be returned to me with the Articles. This the King complying with, poor *Malack* (wholly ignorant what Friend he had so near him) was under dismal Apprehensions of some immediate Punishment, if not of Death itself; but could not guess what he had been guilty of that should be more criminal in him, than the rest of his Comrades; however, he was conducted as a Malefactor to me, with his Hands tied behind him.

I purposed, upon his first Appearance, to have contracted my Visage into Pleats of  
Terror

Terror to have dismayed him, before I had discovered myself to him; but I no sooner beheld his Face, than the former Passages of our Lives recurring to my Mind, my Resolution failed me, and (exalted as I then was so far above him) I could not restrain myself from falling on his Neck, and kissing him. O, my Dear Neve, said *Malack*, sinking down before me, and embracing my Knees, have I lived to this good Purpose, to serve you once more? I told him, that he had, and by my own Consent, should never more leave me. “ Ah! said that good Creature, is my “ Nefs living?” I said she was, and would be no less rejoiced at the Sight of him, than myself: But, said he, *La Bruce* is still confined, release her too, or I shall be but half preserved. I replied, that she was then in my Camp; upon which he was as delighted, as if the good Fortune had been his own Mother’s, and was permitted by me to attend her, on our March Home.

It was at my Return from this Expedition, that I was met by the News of my Wife's Death ; the Shock of which, was scarce tolerable by me ; but as it had happened by the Operation of Nature only, I sustained her Loss with as little repining as I possibly could ; preferring the King's Business to the Indulgence of my own private Passion. I alighted first at his Apartment, and presented him with the Instrument of Peace ; whereby no *Gantzite*, from henceforward, was to claim any Passage through his Majesty's Territories to the Ocean, without being subject to such Duties for Slaves, and other Merchandizes, as were therein stipulated. That the Bearers and Conductors of such Goods, and such Slaves, should not exceed a limited Number at one Time, nor stay on the Coasts above a certain Space, without Leave ; and that they should both pass, and repass, by one stated Rout : And in Case of the Breach of the above Articles,

all

all such Goods and Slaves, should become lawful Prize.

This Capitulation being published in full Assembly, was unanimously approved by all; and the King having ratified it, it was transmitted to *Ganze*. Thus ended this War, to the Honour of *Abluffcar*, which might have been (in its Consequences) most fatal to *Melinde*, had not *Fu-Nabib* so vigorously engaged in it: The Honour of which, in the Event, devolved wholly on me.





C H A P. X.

*Author's Melancholy. Account of La Bruce and Malack. La Bruce her Story. Her Reflections on her Condition among Robbers. Assault upon her. Kills the Ravisher. Her Apprehensions from the Fact. Resolves to stand to the Truth.*

HAVING settled the Tranquility of the State, I retired to my own Apartment, where the melancholy Prospect of my deceased Wife, as yet unburied, imbittered every offering Satisfaction, and ingrossed my whole Attention. I collected from the Report of my Domesticks, that an obstinate Fever had carried her off, in about six Days, in Opposition to every Effort that could be attempted for her Relief; and tho' my Sorrow for so great a Loss was at first inexpressible; yet the common Reflections on human Affairs and the Necessity of Submission to those Dispen-  
sations

penfations which are above our Reach, and equally demand the Acquiefcence of all Men, as annexed to, and Appendages of our Beings, by Degrees abated the Excefs of my Sorrows, and super-induced a Calm upon my Spirits, under the Proſpect of not long ſurviving her; for, ſaid I, ſhould my paſt Years be doubled to me, as by Courſe of Nature they poſſibly may; yet what is paſt appearing to me but a meer Trifle, of no Conſequence, what is ſtill to run, will hereafter be the ſame, and forgotten too; and perhaps we may meet again, in truer Delights than this ſublunary Earth could have afforded us.

I buried her with all becoming Decency, after the Manner of the Country, and having ſpent ſome Weeks in Reflection, and the Contemplation of her Virtues, I reſumed my publick Function in the State again.

*La Bruce* and *Malack* were now my sole Assistants, and Privy-counsellors; for I could not endure to see *Malack*, who had with such Constancy and Delight attached himself to me, and contributed so greatly to my past Enjoyments, now serving me in the mean Capacity of a Slave; but united him in Participation of my Grandeur, and received him to my Bosom as a Friend, in which Relation his Integrity to me, ceased not to display itself in the minutest Instances; tho' all my Endeavours for his Advancement would never induce him, personally, as to myself, to take upon him more than the Form of a Servant.

*La Bruce* managed all the Concerns of my Family, and was the Partner of all my Solitudes, and save that affectionate Interest which arises from the Union of Bodies as well as Minds, was in all outward Regards, of equal Comfort to me as my Wife had been.

When

When I was become publickly conversable in my Family, I demanded of *La Bruce*, what had happened to her and *Malack*, from that Set of Villains who had just seized her, when I made my Escape with *Sally*? She replied, that immediately after our Flight, some of the Ravishers confined herself and *Malack*, whilst the Horsemen pursued us; but what was become of us none of them could give the least Account, at their Return next Day to their Companions; being at a great Loss to think how we should have possibly avoided the strict Search they had made after us; for that they rode all Night about the Wood, we must have entered, by the Side of a vast River, which it was impossible we could have passed, without drowning; nor would they imagine us so little in our Wits, as to have attempted it: But having spent themselves and Cattle with Fatigue, they cursed their Fate in missing us, especially *Sally*, whom  
she



she said, they told her, they prized far beyond herself.

She added, that she had no great Reason to complain of their Treatment to her, for some Days ; they behaving to her with all Deference and Sobriety ; till having espied some Travellers at a prodigious Distance, passing a vast Desert, they went upon the Pursuit of them, taking *Malack* with them, and leaving herself behind, with only one Keeper, in a small Growth of Bushes and Under-wood, where they ordered them to remain till their Return ; having given her Guard a strict Command not to be any Ways rude or abusive to her.

They were no sooner gone, she said, than having but one Companion, she begged him to inform her, what Fate she was destined to, and whether she was to be carried into Slavery or not, and to what Place ? He told her, she was to be  
fold

sold to the King of *Ganze*, to be kept amongst his Women. She then beginning to reason with him, upon the Cruelty of the Case, that one Part of Mankind should attempt to deprive others of their Liberty, to which from the Creation they had all equal Pretence; and wondering how any ingenuous Tempers could submit to turn Pandars for the Lust of another, to the undoing of the Object they would pretend to admire; he made very light of her Arguments, and only laughing at her, asked how she could be better provided for, than in his Master's Palace? But added he, I never suffer him to pluck the first Fruits of those that I carry to his Bed; he has enough of them already, and we only augment their Members for State; you might die a Maid at last, when you come thither, unless some Accident should befriend you; but that this may not be your hard Fate, I am resolved to make a Woman of you, now I have you here alone. With this, she said, he fell upon her to master

master her, (she having before declared such an Abhorrence to his Speeches, that he had no Hopes of prevailing by fair Means) and after long Struggling, till she being so spent, that she had not the least Strength left for Resistance, he was on the Point of accomplishing his Brutality; when almost driven to Despair, she espied a short Dagger hanging by his Side, within her Reach, and collecting all her remaining Vigour, she instantly drew it, and plunged it to the Haft in his Side.

She believed, she said, that he felt himself mortally wounded; for that immediately turning himself from her, "You have done it, said he, but I will not fall alone." Then endeavouring to wrench the Dagger from his Body, she perceived his Efforts to grow fainter and weaker, till he sunk across her Lap (as she lay) Stone-dead.

He was no sooner fallen, than she thought she should have gone besides her Senses, from the Crowd of Doubts, and Suspicions, that at once had entered her Imagination. The Terror of a bleeding Corpse upon her, whilst she lay on her Back, in such a Posture as not to be able to remove its Weight, or even to raise herself upon her Seat; the Dread of his Companions Resentment, at their Return, on Sight of their Fellow slain by her Hands; and the Indignities that she might be compelled to suffer on that Account, were all so many Furies tearing and tormenting her very Soul, and denying her the least Composure or Peace.

At length, she said, with infinite Labour and Struggling, she turned herself on her Face, when the Difficulty of attaining to her Legs, and discharging herself from the Corps, was soon conquered. She called all her Reason to her Aid, and  
entered



entered with herself into a long String of Arguments, of what she had best to do, and how to behave in her then present Circumstances. She was alone; but how long she might remain so, was uncertain: She might attempt to deliver herself from the Hands of those Wretches by Flight; but then it was all a vast Desert Plain around her, (save the little Thicket she was in) and should she be taken in her Flight, no Pretence of hers, that the Security of her Honour had occasioned the Death of their Associate, would be credited; nor would they conceive less of her, than that she had robbed him of his Life by Surprize, or Treachery. If she should escape, whither to should she fly? Perhaps only into the Clutches of those, who might more grossly abuse her.

Upon all Considerations therefore, since Flight was not to be attempted with Security,

curity, she resolved to wait the Issue where she was, and to submit to such Consequences as should attend the Truth of the Fact, and that only.



## C H A P. XI.

*La Bruce's Terrors. Robbers pardon the Fact. Sent to Ganze. Discourse on returning to England. Gets the Confidence of a Portugueze Façtor. Contrives an Escape by his Means. Dispatches the Portugueze Concerns with the King.*

**I**T was a most dismal Situation we may be sure, *La Bruce* was now in, nor had she ever till this Fact, in her whole Life, passed her Moments so dismally to her Apprehensions before; but the Spoilers not returning with the Lapse of Day, invested her with ten Times the Horror which she had till then endured; for what could she do in the Dark, alone, with the dead Carcass by her Side; which of itself was so shocking to consider? Again, when she viewed herself, as exposed to the Attacks of the Savage Beasts, which nightly prowled about those Wilds, without the

least Help or Defence near, it reduced her almost to Desperation ; but no Relief offered, nor was any possibly to be attained. Under these Anxieties her Time wore away, till she perceived it to begin to dawn for Morning, when rising from her Seat, for she had not slept a Wink, and as the Light encreased, looking around her, she beheld the Robbers returning.

She declared, that altho' they had hitherto been so much her Aversion, yet she could not but behold them with Satisfaction ; but she dreaded their Knowledge of their murdered Companion. At length, rousing up her Resolution, as they advanced, she went forward to meet them ; and desiring them to halt a Moment, she fell on her Knees before them, and begging their Pardon, declared the Truth in every Circumstance, of their Fellow's Death ; assuring them, that the Accident happening soon after their Departure, she being alone, might have had Time enough to



to have made her Escape, but could not submit to leave such a Blemish upon her Honour behind her, uncleared up to them, lest they should have suspected her of murdering him by Surprize.

They all paused awhile, upon the Delivery of her Story ; when one of them, ordering her to rise from her Knees, in the Name of them all, commended her Conduct, and Resolution, which every Voice at length concurring in, she was honourably acquitted, and returned with them to the Thicket, where after examining the Body they buried it.

She remained with them in this strolling Way of Life, she said, for a long Time, till being arrived much nearer Home than they were at first, *Malack* and she were dispatched away with five Guards only, to the Court of *Ganze*, and there separated ; *Malack* to a Post amongst the King's Guards, and herself to the Apart-

ment of the King's Mistresses: But the Fatigue she had undergone in her Travels, and the Anxiety she had suffered in her Mind, before she had been there a Fortnight, threw her into such an ill State of Health, that she expected to have died every Day; so that she had never as yet seen the King; for she had been but very few Weeks recovered before I freed her.

*La Bruce* had no sooner finished her Relation, than she intreated me to give her an Account of myself and *Sally*, from our Separation from her and *Malack*, and by what Means I became held in so great Esteem by *Abluffcar*; all which I having informed her of, she replied, that I being so great at *Melinde*, she presumed, I should scarce ever entertain Thoughts of returning to *England* again.

I paused a little upon what she said; for I should not lightly have declared my Sentiments to every one; but having received

ceived so many convincing Proofs of her Attachment to me, I replied, that I had long been ruminating on that Event, but particularly since the Death of my Wife; that my Inclination had, from that Time, tended with much more Earnestness towards Home; and that the readiest Means that I could propose to myself was, to steal off to some of the *Portuguese* Factories; from whence I doubted not of procuring a Passage to *Europe*.

*La Bruce*, who had all along listened very attentively to my Discourse, hoped, she said, that I would make some Provision for her Return too; for that she should be hopelessly miserable, in being left alone, without one Friend in the Country.

Her eager Desire for joining in my Flight (for I was well assured that *Abluffcar* would never consent to my Departure) introduced frequent Conferences between

us on that Head, and diverse Measures had at Times been debated between us for its Accomplishment; when a Deputy arrived from one of the *Portugueze* Settlements on the Coast, to crave some Immunities for their Subjects, within his Majesty's Dominions.

This *Portugueze* applied to me for his Introduction to the King, offering me some Presents, which he had brought for the speedier Dispatch of his Negotiation. Having heard his Request, I refused his Gifts; but assured him, that the Matter of his Petition not appearing to me prejudicial to his Majesty, I would procure him Satisfaction in it, upon his Engagement to gratify me in a Demand I should make on him; and in the mean Time, to reserve to himself the Subject of it, under the strictest Tie of Secresy; and that he might have the less Opportunity of divulging it to any one, I offered him my  
House,



House, till his Affairs should call him back again.

The *Portugueze*, who was as personable, and well-bred Man, as ever I conversed with, assured me, that my Readiness to oblige the Factory, not only heaped indispensable Obligations on him, their Representative; but on each particular Member of their Body, and that whatever lay within the Extent of their Power, I had only to command before Performance; and at the same Time, desired me to place all Confidence in him; for that not a Syllable should transpire from him, but under my Authority; and I verily believe, he spoke from his Heart.

I then revealed to him my first accidental Settlement in this Country, the Means of my Advancement, and the Esteem the King held me in, with the Riches that I had procured in his Service; but none of these, I told him,  
could

could balance the Propensity I had for my native Country ; and that the Favour which the Factory could oblige me in was, only to further my Conveyance to *Europe*, whenever I should appear amongst them with my Family.

I had but hinted my Request, before he replied, that he blamed me not for my Inclination to the Place of my Nativity, for that it was his own Case ; and that whenever I pleased to honour the Factory with my Presence, I should be dispatched with all possible Speed.

I conducted him to an Audience of the King, whom I had previously acquainted with his Business, and whose Consent was now to be demanded only for Form-Sake : Where having obtained his Desire, after about ten Days Stay with me, he returned highly satisfied, not only with the speedy Success of his Negotiation,

ciation, but with his kind Entertainment from me, to whom he gave the amplest Assurances of Accommodation, on my Arrival at the Factory.



C H A P,

## C H A P. XII.

*The Author discourses La Bruce, about the Portugueze. Fears she was in Love with him. Author intended to marry her. Misunderstanding of each other. Declares himself for Marriage. Her Answer. Form Schemes for escaping. Deceives the Court. Flies with La Bruce and Malack to the Portugueze Factory.*

**T**HE Portugueze had not been many Days gone, e'er I advanced the Topicks of our Discourse before *La Bruce*; who told me, that she looked upon the *Portugueze* to be as polished a Gentleman, as she had ever seen; and that he had been exceeding complaisant to her, insomuch, that she almost suspected him for a Lover; for truly, she said, he had poured forth Abundance of fine Speeches to her, when at any Time I was absent, even more than ever she had heard before.

Then,



Then, said I, *La Bruce* you are sorry that he parted so soon from you. No truly, she replied, his Words were *en passant* to her, nor did she presume that he had any further, or other Meaning in them, than to divert himself; but that had she been hard pressed by him, he was so amiable a Person, that she could not say how she might have conducted herself.

I had ever, from the first Glimpse that I had had of *La Bruce*, from the Back of her Elephant, in my own Imagination, conceived her to be the most engaging Person of her Sex; tho' my inviolable Affection for *Sally* had ever stifled those, or any other Suggestions to her Prejudice; but since her Death, they had daily more and more predominated, in Favour of *La Bruce*, till I had determined to offer her Marriage, so soon as a decent Regard to *Sally's* Memory would permit me.

*La*

*La Bruce*, having now fired my Soul, by the seeming Satisfaction with which she mentioned the *Portugueze*, and his Compliments to her; I could no longer (lest his Image and Speeches should form a Lodgment in her Heart, too permanent to be eradicated) forbear disclosing my own Sentiments to her. “ O, *La Bruce*, said  
 “ I, what has this Stranger done! What  
 “ Disquiet hath he engendered in my  
 “ tortured Breast! I perceive that you  
 “ love him, and I am lost.”

*La Bruce*, whose Cheeks reddened like Scarlet, seemed absolutely confounded at what I had uttered. “ Mr. *Bingfield*, replied she, you amaze me by the Vehemence with which you seem to be agitated; but what can you possibly mean by it; or wherein can I have injured you? It is true, the *Portugueze* did utter some flattering Compliments to me, and cloathed in Hints of Love too; but can you imagine, that I, (for  
 “ the

“ the Sake of any new Acquaintance)  
 “ should either consent to, or act, any  
 “ Thing detrimental to your Interest?  
 “ I did confer with him upon our Escape  
 “ too; but by Way of Reply only, to  
 “ such Discourse as he informed me he  
 “ had already had with yourself upon the  
 “ Subject; nor can you conceive that any  
 “ private Affairs (had there been any such  
 “ transacting between us) could ever have  
 “ been concurred with by me, to your  
 “ Prejudice. No, believe me, Sir, I am  
 “ as secret in your Concerns as your own  
 “ Heart, and from no Motives upon  
 “ Earth can be biaſſed to prove false to  
 “ you.”

“ My dear *La Bruce*, ſaid I, you take  
 “ me wrong. I never feared your diſ-  
 “ cloſing my Secrets, or being false-hearted  
 “ to me in that Reſpect; but I am con-  
 “ founded at the Neceſſity I lie under,  
 “ (ſo ſuddenly after the Death of a Wife  
 “ once ſo dear to me) of declaring, that  
 “ if

“ if I find not her Fellow in you, I am  
“ an undone Man. This, my *La Bruce*,  
“ is what I would have you sensible of,  
“ before you give Way to the delusive  
“ Speeches of any other; for you only  
“ have it in your Power to render me for  
“ ever the happiest, or most miserable  
“ among Mortals.”

*La Bruce* had no sooner given me the Hearing, and observed what an Agony I had put myself into, (for she was sensible I was not insincere) than she declared, that all she had said, relative to the *Portuguese* Discourse with her, had been meerly in Lieu of other Topicks of Conversation; and reported by her in no other Light, than as a Matter applicable to her Vanity; but added, that the Effect which it had produced, in the Expressions I had made of my Affection to her, could not but convey the most sensible Delight to her Senses; for that I was already satisfied her Obligations to me were too accumulated  
to



to permit her (in Breach of the most binding Ties of Gratitude) to oppose my Inclination in any Thing, much less in what would for ever redound so much to her own Honour and Felicity.

Having thus fairly broken the Ice (tho' I did not as yet intend to have done it) we from henceforth looked upon, and behaved towards, each other, as Man and Wife in Interest and Affection, to be confirmed so soon as we should arrive at the *Portuguese* Factory; nor was that Blessing in Expectancy any of the least Spurs to our Preparations for that Journey; but how to bring about our Departure unsuspectedly, was our main Difficulty.

We had formed diverse Schemes, but all liable to Objections, which had so delayed the Time, that our Impatience was almost arrived to a Crisis; when a Start took my Fancy, that to indicate a Design of establishing myself absolutely at *Melinde*,  
would

would be the readiest Means of rendering my Absence for a few Days less remarked by the King ; for I had received many Intimations of the watchful Eye his Majesty kept over me.

I first gave out, that I purposed to remove from the Apartment his Majesty had been pleased to assign me, as too straight and incommodious for my Views, and to erect me a superb Building for myself and Posterity ; and for that I had had no Children by my first Wife, I would now marry again. I then applied to his Majesty for a Piece of Ground, formerly inclosed for a Park, about three Miles from the Palace, which had only a small Banqueting-house upon it, whither his Majesty but very seldom retired to, under an Assurance, that intending to marry and settle in that Country, I would thereon establish my Family.

The

The King, who coveted no more than to fix me in his Dominions, made not the least Scruple of granting my Petition; so that I now set about my new Project, with all possible Shew of Perseverance. I caused great Quantities of Materials to be laid in of all Sorts for Building; I sent Furniture to the Banquetting-house, for myself and Servants to lie there, that I might the better inspect the Proceedings: In short, I had employed so many Hands, and was so constantly amongst them, that I was but rarely looked for at the Palace; and all the Discourse at Court was, of the Magnificence of my Building Scheme.

My Presence at Court being not now much expected; that I might the better absent myself some Days from my Workmen, I gave out that Business would detain me for some Time in the City; when all my Treasure being packed up, (for I had converted most of my Money into Jewels) I took *Malack* and *La Bruce* with me,

me, and deviating from the Road, (when we were past Discovery from the Building) we rode for the Sea-Coast, for sixteen Hours, without any more Intermiſſion than was absolutely neceſſary for the Refreshment of ourſelves and Cattle. In ſhort, we put the Horſes to the Stretch, allowing only ſo much Reſt, that they might not fail us, till in as few Days as poſſible we arrived at the *Portugueze* Settlement,



C H A P.



## C H A P. XIII.

*Well received by the Factory. Invite them to his Wedding with La Bruce. Gomarez threatens the Author. La Bruce terrified. Informs the Author of it. Takes Measures for his Defence. Kind Professions of Crisalvo. Gives Malack Instructions. Beset by Assassins. Kills two of them. Takes the third Prisoner. Prisoner kept in Custody. Author dismissed.*

THE first Person whom we enquired for upon our Arrival, was Gomarez; (that being the Name of the *Portuguese* who had been with me at *Melinde*) who not only welcomed us himself, but introduced us to the Factory, who all did the same; expressing the Obligation they were under to me for the Dispatch they had met with at *Melinde*, by my Means. They told me, that they had been informed by  
Go-

*Gomarez*, of the Request I had made to him, with which they would most readily comply, by the first Shipping that returned; and were sorry, for my Sake, that it would be some Months first; for that the Vessels, destined for *Europe*, were but lately departed; but hoped I would not be uneasy at my Stay, for that the Factory would take Charge both of our Persons and Concerns, and that we should be entertained at their Expence, till we sailed.

We had not been many Days in our Apartment, before each of the Factory, in their Turns, had complimented us singly, and we them; and several of them having one Evening invited me to a Collation, I told them, that as my Stay was likely to be so long with them, I would beg the Favour of one of their Priests to lend me his Assistance, in marrying me to a Lady I had brought with me for that Purpose; at the same Time, making one general Invitation of the whole Factory, to assist, not  
only

only at the Ceremony itself, but at an Entertainment which I would prepare for them afterwards.

My Marriage, and Invitation, infused an universal Glee through the whole Company, they all promising to be of the Party; for I desired that my present Invitation might be general, as well for themselves present, as the absent Members. We then appointed the Day, when we were all to meet at my Apartment, and to march to the Church in a full Body.

The prefixed Time being the Day Sev'n-night of my Invitation, I had desired *La Bruce* to prepare every Thing in the most elegant Manner possible, for the Reception of so many good Friends; and shew as as busy as a Bee upon the Performance: But on the fourth Day in the Evening,) I having dined Abroad with some of the Factory, with whom I was in stricter Alliance than the rest) at my Return, *La*

*Bruce* informed me, that she laboured with inexpressible Concern, at something which had happened in my Absence; and that she would not have thought of mentioning it to me, but from an Apprehension of the ill Consequences of its Suppression.

Her deliberate Preface but excited in me the greater Curiosity to discover it; when she told me, that *Gomarez* had been to pay her his Compliments, seeming highly disgusted at her intended Marriage to me; insisting, that it was an Insult put upon him, who at *Melinde* had declared his Passion for her, and had ever since proposed to prosecute it; for that she gave him no Denial. She assured him, she said, that she never esteemed any Part of his Conversation to her there, as a Request of her in Marriage; nor (tho' he was pleased to pay her some Compliment more than she deserved, by any forced Interpretation of his Behaviour to her) could she construe what passed between them, into more than  
(now



(now and then) a gallant Excursion, such as flowed too frequently from his Sex to hers ; but she assured him, that we had been long contracted to each other, and therefore, whatever Views he might have had, as they were unknown to her, she was obliged to proceed in her present Engagement with me, nor could she possibly retract ; tho' she returned him infinite Thanks for his favourable Thoughts of her.

She told me, that, after fixing his Eyes for some Time upon the Center, he arose in violent Discontent, and turning furiously from her, muttered out, that he was tricked, and that if he could not enjoy her, no one else should ; from which Behaviour she could not be without her Fears, she said, of his meditating some desperate Mischief against me.

I must confess, that her Suspicions seemed not to me to be ill founded ; for I had often heard of the malicious Assassinations of

the *Italians* and *Spaniards*, to whom, thinks I, as Cousin Germans, the *Portuguese* are but too nearly allied. Again, not having an old staunch Friend upon the Spot, in whom I could confide for Advice, how to behave in this Dilemma, I was wholly at a Loss to whom to reveal this Secret, unless to *Crisalvo*, with whom I had formed an Intimacy ; for to confine myself to my Apartment, I judged an Act of Meanness, ill-suited my Character as a Soldier ; and to make a publick Declaration of what I had heard, or to require a Restraint might be laid upon my Adversary, would fix an Imputation of Cowardice upon me, that I was not willing to sustain : But imparting my Suspicion to one, who had professed a peculiar Regard for me, could give no Umbrage for even a Surmize to my Dishonour.

Big with this Resolve, I charged my Pockets with a Brace of loaded Pistols ; I took also my Scimitar, and a short Dagger

at

at my Girdle, and away I went to *Crisalvo*. I opened to him the Occasion of my Visit, and from him, required Information of the Laws against Assassines, and the Means to be applied, in Case of Attempts of that Nature. He replied, that he hoped I must imagine himself to abhor any Thing of that Kind, tho' he was ashamed to say, it was too common amongst his Countrymen; but that he would procure the Party to be attached upon Suspicion, or accompany and assist me himself, if I pleased, at any Time and Place, where I might be apprehensive of Danger.

I returned him Abundance of Thanks, for that distinguishing Testimony of his Good-will, and judging from thence that he was really in my Interest, I unfolded to him my first Regard for *La Bruce*, in my deceased Wife's Days; my Resolution ever since of making her my Wife; of the Respects *Gomarez* had paid her at *Melinde*, and what had passed between him and her,

but the preceding Day, at my Apartment, and required his Opinion, whether my Jealousy seemed well-founded, or chimerical only ?

*Crisalvo* replied, that he was so far from condemning my Conjectures, that he verily believed I had but too much Ground for them ; he begged me to be cautious how I exposed myself ; and as there would pass but two Nights before my Marriage, and whatever was in Agitation would most probably fall out in one of them, he advised me either not to come Abroad for that Time, as I had done, or to be completely armed and guarded.

As for confining myself, contrary to my Custom, I could not be persuaded to that ; for I told him, I had much rather confront my Enemy, at a Time when I might expect him, than be surprized at unawares, and off my Guard ; and as for multiplying my Attendants, I would only  
take



take my own Man with me, whose Courage and Fidelity I had experienced ; and if I was but attacked with equal an Number, I would not fear them ; but as to the Arrest, I could bear no Thoughts of that.

*Malack* had followed me to *Crisalvo's*, armed at all Points as I was ; so that I resolved to wait my Foe that Night, rather than to live under future Anxiety ; and either to vanquish him, or fall, myself, in the Action.

I had provided *Malack* with proper Instructions for his Behaviour, in Case of an Assault ; and about ten o'Clock at Night, set forwards on my Way Home ; but under great Circumspection ; for I went first myself, and had ordered *Malack* to keep at least ten Paces behind me, and narrowly to observe, that no one should attack him in the Rear.

The Moon was up, but its Body obscured with thin Clouds, so that I could see tolerably well cross the Street, and right forwards ; but my Apartment being in a Side-Street, I was obliged to turn very short to go down it. Here it was that I expected the Onset, as much the properest Place for such a murderous Purpose, it being not only darker there, but the Assailant might stand secure, till I, by turning upon him, should deliver my Body into his Hands.

I own, my Heart trembled at turning this Angle ; but (from what Impulse, other than of my meer Imagination, I can't say) just as the very next Step would have presented my Body beyond the Point, I had scarce grounded my Foot, before I retracted it again, and recovered my Step backwards ; at which Instant a Pistol fired. I had then one in my Right-hand, and furiously rushing into the Cross-Street, I fired upon two or three Men whom I saw there,

there, one of which dropped instantly, and the other two making at me with their drawn Swords, I scorned to make a further Use of my Pistol in Reserve, but drew my Scimitar, and engaged them.

By this Time *Malack* was come up, and had entered upon Action, which disengaged me from one of my Opponents; but not before the other had run me thro' the Left-arm. This so exasperated me, that aiming one severe Blow at his Head, I missed that, but carried away the greatest Part of the Flesh of his Right-arm, and three Fingers of his Sword-hand; and before I was sensible of the Success of my Blow, I had, by a strong Thrust, ran him through the Body.

*Malack* and his Adversary were still in furious Contest, when being desirous of sparing one of the Instruments, for the better Discovery of the Villainy; I clapped

my Scimitar to his Side, insisting, that if he dropped his Arms, he should be spared, if not, that I would push it directly through his Body.

The poor Fellow perceiving his Danger, and that Death must unavoidably succeed to his Obstinacy, surrendered at Discretion. I carried him back my Prisoner to *Crisalvo's*, leaving the two dead Men upon the Spot of Action. *Crisalvo*, upon Sight, recollected him to be *Gomarez's* Servant, and advised me to conduct him before the Governor; but being extremely desirous of informing myself who the other Assassins were, (for our Prisoner stood mute to all our Enquiries) I begged that he might be secured, till *Crisalvo* should have been with me, to inform ourselves who the Deceased were; but it was no hard Matter for either of us, when we arrived with a Light, to point out *Gomarez*, tho' in Disguise, by his Face, which then lay upwards;



wards ; and the third, was another of his Servants, who were both stark dead.

We then took the Prisoner with us to the Governor, where I gave Information of all that had happened ; intreating him to examine the Prisoner strictly : But there was little Room for urging any Thing by Way of Mitigation for me, when *Crisalvo* had assured the Governor of my Errand to him that Day, and the Prisoner had confessed, that his Master had spirited up himself and his Fellow-Servant to assassinate me, at my Return from *Crisalvo's* ; adding, that neither himself or the deceased Servant, would be prevailed upon to concern themselves in so vile an Action, till his Master, insisting upon it, by Way of Encouragement to them, offered to lead them himself ; upon which they could no longer oppose him.

The Governour ordered myself and the Prisoner to be kept in Custody till the  
next

next Morning, when he would convoke the Council, and lay the Affair before them; but *Crisalvo* engaging for my Appearance, I was permitted to return Home to my Family.



## C H A P. XIV.

*La Bruce distracted with Fears. Author is wounded. Discourse between them. Author acquitted by the whole Factory. Marries La Bruce. Abluffcar sends to demand him. Skipped off by the Portuguese. Think themselves happy. Are followed by a Pyrate. Resolve to defend themselves. La Bruce dresses as a Sailor. Are taken. Sail for Madagascar. Prisoners seize the Vessel.*

**U**PON my Return Home, from this Scene of Slaughter and Confusion, I there found poor *La Bruce* almost smothered in Tears; the Catastrophe of Death having reached her Ears, but no Certainty of who it was that was slain. This charming Woman flew to my Arms, and clasping me round the Neck, almost stifled me in her Embraces, for Joy at the Sight of me alive, and returned again; for she  
had

had heard, that it was believed I was one of the Slain. I gave her an Account of all that had happened, and that *Gomarez* was killed by my Hand; and then telling her, that I had received a slight Wound in my Arm, but in the Hurry had as yet felt no Pain from it; she sent directly for a Surgeon, who examining it, reported, that it being but a Flesh-Wound, and having pierced neither Vein or Artery, the Blood being stanch'd, would heal it of itself; so that putting on a single Plaister, to prevent its Friction against my Cloaths, I felt no more of it.

*La Bruce*, cooling a little from her Rapture, began to blush so for her past Conduct, that she begged me to pardon her, for the Forwardness she had shewn in her Embraces, at my first Appearance to her; but that my Presence being more acceptable to her than that of an Angel, Nature would not be confined to Modes and Ceremonies. O, *La Bruce*, said I, (extolling her



her Conduct) that Expression of your Affection, is so far from demanding Pardon for its Excess (as you are pleased to term it) that it shall never be remembered by me, save in Gratitude. But it was now high Time to retire, for the Repose both of Body and Mind, after so great a Fatigue as I had undergone that Evening.

Upon stating the Facts of my Case, the next Day, before his Excellency and the Council, I was acquitted with Applause; and separately complimented by every present Member, upon my fortunate Escape. They highly condemned *Gomarez* for his Rashness, and promised me all future Protection; but on no Account would permit me to postpone my Marriage (which I had offered to do till after *Gomarez's* Funeral) for they insisted that tho' a Member of their Body, yet having behaved in so unbecoming a Manner, no Regard was due from them to his Memory. As for the poor Servant, being unwilling that  
any

any more Blood should be shed on my Account; at my humble Request, he was pardoned.

My Marriage with *La Bruce* being consummated, we remained with the Factory, in the most agreeable Harmony; but whilst we were enjoying ourselves under this Security, we received Advice, that a Message was arriving from *Abluffcar*, to demand the Delivery of me into his Hands. This not only struck myself and Wife into a terrible Consternation, but also alarmed the whole Factory, from the ill Consequences that this Affair might be attended with.

They would by no Means condescend to deliver me up, to whom they had voluntarily afforded both their Protection and Regard; nor did they chuse to draw upon themselves *Abluffcar's* Resentment: But the Messengers not being yet arrived, a Council was convened, at which I was desired

fired to be present. Here they expressed their Concern for my Situation, and the Inclination they had for keeping fair with *Abluffcar*; and as the only Means of preserving me, with Security to themselves, proposed my embarking on Board a small coasting Vessel, then in the River, and retiring to another *Portugueze* Settlement, about sixty Leagues to the Southward, to whom they would give me a Recommendation.

I was so truly sensible of their Friendship, and of the Necessity of the Measures they had proposed for my Safety, that having rendered them all due Acknowledgements for their past and present Favours to me, I immediately embarked for my Voyage, rejoicing to think, that I should then be freed from all further Danger. We were so indeed from *Abluffcar*; but how vain are the Projects of Man!

My

My Wife and I, from the Moment we first went on Board, had been blessing our happy Situation; imagining it to have been the most lucky Turn that our Affairs were capable of taking, when the Resolution passed the Council, for dismissing us from the Factory; not only out of the Reach of *Abluffcar*, but that of a Relation of *Gomarez*, a Writer to the Factory, who had dropped Speeches of the hard Fate of his Kinsman, (and who, as we had been informed, resented the Behaviour of the Council, in so slightly passing over his Kinsman's Death) and of whom we had been privately advised to beware; but now, we imagined, that we were not only on our Way Homewards, but also absolutely out of the Reach of his Designs against us too.

Whilst we were one Day recapitulating our Affairs, and congratulating each other upon the felicitous Turn they had taken, and sailing smoothly before the Wind;  
about



WILLIAM BINGFIELD, *Esq;* 163

about the third Day from our quitting the River, our Captain espied a Sail, somewhat to Windward, crouding after us with all her Canvass out. Having taken his Glass to reconnoitre her, he liked her worse than before, and would have run for Land, which he judged to lie about twenty Leagues to our Right; but the Wind shifting a little, still kept him from his Purpose; by which Means, the chacing Vessel had gained upon us considerably. In short, in a few Hours after, the Master was satisfied that she was a Pyrate Sloop, and that we, having no sufficient Means of Defence against her, should be compelled to submit.

This was heavy News to myself and Wife, when we considered that a Separation would probably ensue; for that we should both become Slaves, and possibly in different Countries; our Effects, which were very considerable, would be plundered, and ourselves, from thenceforth, reduced

duced to no further Estimation among Mankind, than for the bare Price which we should produce, as Cattle in a Market.

I took my Leave of my Wife, assuring her, that my Determination was to die fighting; for that I could never survive the Loss of her, together with my Effects and Liberty; and tho' Resistance should produce no other Effect in the general to us; yet, as it would procure Death, falling that Way in Defence of ones Liberty and Property, would be far preferable to a Violence committed by ones own Hand; for that, I told her, must otherwise be my Case.

She was so far from Dejection, at the Thoughts of losing me, that she applauded my Resolution; and tho' her Efforts could at best, she said, prove but faint, and of little Service, she would not fail to fall by me; but that, what she trembled the

the most at was, lest her Sex should expose her to Abuses, and Indignities from the Crew, and begged me to enquire, whether I could not procure her a spare Sailor's Habit, that she might but appear like the rest of us, and then, let what would be our Fate, she should submit with Temper.

I procured her a spare Dress of the Masters of the Vessel, which she had but just Time to appear in, before the Pyrate came up with us, we being prepared, as well as we could, to receive her.

She did not appear to be that formidable Vessel, upon her Arrival, that we had taken her for; but out-numbered us in Hands, three to one; for she had thirty-seven, and we but thirteen, myself, Wife, and *Malack* included. We had some good Cannon on Board, and some Swivel-Guns on Deck, with small Arms sufficient; but then we wanted a Supply of Powder, which rendered our Ordnance ineffectual.

In

In this Condition, we maintained a Fight till two of our Hands and the Master were killed, and two more wounded; when in Spite of all my Efforts to the contrary, the Mate, who now ranked Captain, struck the Colours.

The Privateer boarded us directly, secured us, rummaged the Vessel, (in which there was nothing worth carrying off but my Treasure) and shipping such of us whose Cloaths were worth exchanging for their own, prepared to carry us into *Madagascar*, under Conduct of such of their own Crew as they had put on Board of us.

There were ten of us poor Prisoners, with the two wounded Men, who spent the first Night most disconsolately, in the Place of our Confinement; but the next Day, the Pyrate Vessel coming along-side of us, we were removed into her; when we first understood, that the Pyrates, judging



ing ours to be the cleaner and tighter Vessel, (their own being crazy and very foul) had formed a Design of cruizing in her, and of sending their own Home with us.

They left us under Sail for *Madagascar*; but on the fourth Night, about Midnight, there arose such an Hurricane at South-West, that the nine Hands, which they had left on Board us, were in no Shape answerable to the Demands of the Ship; when, fearing every Moment that they should perish, they were compelled, for their own Security, to release five of us Prisoners, to assist them in weathering this Storm, of which Number, *Malack* and myself were two.

*Malack* and I knew but little of the Matter; but our three Fellow-Sailors were most expert at the Business. The Main-Sail, which was spread at the Commencement of the Tempest, so swayed the Ship  
about,

about, tho' it was in great Measure torn from its Stays, that we feared it would have overfet us; for the Fury of the Wind so beat it against the Rigging, that the Pyrates were afraid of mounting the Shrouds to cut down, or furl it up; which one of our Hands observing, and that without it, the Vessel must be over, offered himself upon that Duty, whilst the rest were occupied about other Things.

I observing the Fellow's Courage, was in great Hopes that he would prove a proper Instrument for my Purpose, which was to become Masters of the Vessel ourselves (if possible) but having no other Means of conveying my Intent to him, I followed him up to the round Top, regardless of the Danger, and there communicated my Design to him. He readily approving it, told me, that then he would not cut down the Sail, but only lash her to the Mast, that she might become serviceable to us, in case of Success. I replied, that  
I would

I would engage for the Black, who was a brave Fellow, and that if he could prevail on the other two Sailors, we would take all Advantages of surprising the Crew, and either murder, or throw them over Board.

I descended then to the Deck, and gave *Malack* his Instructions, with strict Orders not to begin to act, till he should observe myself, and the Sailors to hollow, this being the Token we had agreed upon.

When the *Portugueze* had descended, and cheared his Companions, we began our Operation, by two of us running to the Helm, and calling out that the Ship was splitting. This Cry brought all the Pyrates forward to them, when the remaining three of us seizing some Arms which lay on the Deck, we hollowed; then two of us with Pistols, one with an Handspike, and the two who were with the Pyrates turning upon them, and in the Scuffle dis-

arming some of them, we drove them before us with such incredible Fury, that the small Remains of Courage which the Storm had still left them, entirely sunk and abandoned them; for three of them were killed out-right, and one had jumped over-board at the first Onset.

We, being now reduced to an equal Number on both Sides (tho' two of them were grievously wounded) immediately chained them separately to the Masts, and other Parts of the Ship, that they might not cabal together; and releasing our Companions, who as yet were ignorant of our Proceedings on Deck, we took upon ourselves the Command of the Vessel, and made the *Portugueze*, to whom I had first discovered my Scheme, Captain of her; by which Time, Day beginning to break, the Wind had considerably abated.



C H A P. XV.

*Know little of Navigation. Sail Eastward. Set the Crew on Shore. Archer relates his Story. Short Allowance. Distressed for Food. Horrid Catastrophe. Behead and pickle one of the Crew. Are greatly cheared at it. Reflections on over-eating.*

NO sooner had we made ourselves Masters of the Vessel, secured the Prisoners, and all was Peace again, than we held a Consultation, what Course to steer, not only to avoid the Pyrate, but to escape being met by any Vessel from *Madagascar*. We were none of us great Connoisseurs at the Instruments on Board; but as we observed the Pyrate to coast away Northward, we resolved to stretch over to South-Eastward, in Hopes of reaching some known Shore, or meeting with some friendly Ship to take us in. This Course therefore we took, and in about a Week's

Sailing, passing by a small Island, we turned our Prisoners on Shore; but having very little Provision on Board, we could not afford them above enough for one Meal or two.

I had observed one of the Prisoners, a young likely Fellow, to lament himself during his whole Confinement; but upon our shipping them off to the Island, he broke out into Weeping, deploring his hard Fate, in falling into the Hands of the cursed Crew that he had belonged to; begging, by all Means, that he might be permitted to stay on Board with us, engaging to be faithful and true to us, to the last; for that now he durst publish his Mind, he had much rather we should throw him over-board, than set him on Shore in such Company.

This being uttered in *English*, I suspected him to have been some Captive-Hand, compelled to take on with the Pyrates, and  
granted

granted his Request, landing only the other four Pyrates on the Island.

Our whole Crew were equally acquainted with the Seas we were in, as myself; but we still pushing South-Eastward, during our Passage, I informed myself, by what Means the young Fellow fell in with the Pyrates. He told me, his Name was *Peter Archer*, that he was of *Coventry*, that he entered before the Mast, in the *East-India* Service, for *Bombay*; that himself, and six more, putting into an Island for Water, were taken by the Pyrates, in their Return to the Ship, where being so miserably treated, and almost starved; rather than subject themselves to the Injuries they suffered, they entered into the Pyrates Service. He had been there six Years, he said, in constant Hope, by some Means or other, of getting free from them; but never had the least Opportunity till now. He added, that it was the greatest Pleasure in Life, when we first began to at-

tempt our Liberty, and that he was sure, if any one took Notice of his Conduct upon their first Surprize, he would acquit him of raising an Hand against us; this some of our Hands confirming, I demanded, why he did not then sooner make himself known to us, and the Circumstances he was in with the Crew? He replied, because one or other of them would have murdered him; till they being in the Boat, he perceived himself out of Danger.

*Archer* delivered his Story with such an Air of Sincerity, that giving Credence to him, and imagining him to be best acquainted with the Seas we were in, we took him into Confidence, and committed the Guidance of the Vessel, in great Measure to him; but neither understood he more of Navigation than lay within the Sphere of our Compass; for that we steered Easterly we were certain, but in what Latitude we were, was a Difficulty we could none of us determine; however, by  
steer-



steering in the same Course, he hoped soon to make Land.

Our Wind now slackening upon us, and what little there was being in the Teeth of our Purpose, we made little or no Way, but inclined still more and more to the South; when our Provision being near spent, we fell into short Allowance, and in a Week or ten Days more, even that was consumed. We had still some Water left, but were obliged to be sparing even of that, tho' it was so extremely hot, that we were never free from Drought, even while the Liquor was in our Throats. It held out, however, till we had boiled down all the Leather in the Ship to a Jelly, and eaten it, and every the vilest Vermin we could come at.

In this dismal Situation, we were so weak, we could scarce crawl the Deck; when missing one of our Hands, we suspected that he must have died in the Hold;

for upon Enquiry, it was some Days since any of us had seen him. I then proposed to make a Search for him, which when most of us had agreed to, one of the *Portuguese* seeming very uneasy, told us, that on such a Night, he being then on Watch, with the absent Man, believed that he fell over-board; he hearing a violent Flounce in the Water: But running to the Place, and seeing nothing of him, he did not chuse to make any Words of it, lest it should be suspected that he had thrown him in.

We all blamed him for concealing it so long, verily believing, that he had related the Truth; but a Day or two afterwards, we smelt such a Stink, as almost poisoned us, and imagining it to have proceeded from the Bilge-water in the Hold, we fixed our Pumps to extract it, as well as our Strength would permit; but the Pump voided but little, and that, far from being tainted with any such like Smell, as we  
per-

perceived. This put us upon further Search into the Cause, when to our unspeakable Horror, we discovered the Remains of the Body of the poor absent Sailor, stowed into an empty Water-Cask, with the Head beaten in ; but Abundance of Slices had been cut from the most fleshy Parts of him.

This unexpected Sight struck such Astonishment into us all, that we had enough to do to recover the Deck again : Nay, our Consternation was so great, as even to prevent our forming such Resolves, or proceeding to such Actions as were conducive to the Discovery of the infamous Author of the Barbarity ; till recollecting ourselves a little, I desired that all Hands might be called upon Deck, when our Number was incomplete, by one Man. Him we called by Name, but no one answering, we, upon Search, found him behind some Goods in the Hold.

Upon demanding what he knew of the murdered Man, he (almost ready to sink into the Deck with Terror) fell on his Knees, and asking Pardon first of Heaven, and then of the whole Crew, declared himself guilty of the Death of his Fellow-Sailor, and that he had disposed of the Body where we had found it; but added, that what he had done he was necessitated to, for meer Hunger: That Life was sweet, and that no longer able to endure the cruciating Pangs of his Appetite, he first knocked him down, and then conveying him into the Cask, cut his Throat, and had ever since subsisted upon his Flesh.

The Fellow was in such an Agony during the whole Relation, that it was scarce to be believed, he could have finished it. He confessed himself unworthy of Life, and begged it of us as a Favour to release him from it; alledging, that he would not sustain the like inward Torment for three Days more, to obtain Possession of  
of



of the whole Globe ; still urging, that Hunger was a severe Thing, and therefore hoped for Mercy.

We ordered him into Confinement, till we had conferred together upon his Crime, and had prepared his Sentence. We could have no Thoughts of suffering him to live, after such a Deed, lest others might be encouraged to perpetrate the like Villainy, tho' we even envied him the Repast he had made on the Body. At length, after several Opinions, and Punishments proposed, our Captain (as we called him) desired to be heard ; when every one paying Attention, he first set before us the extreme Hardships of our Circumstances, and the Necessity we lay under of preserving Life, so long as it was in our Power, tho' by Means not strictly justifiable.

He declared, it was his Opinion, that the Delinquent had justly forfeited his Life, for daring to take that of another,  
without

without the joint Concurrence of the whole Body, and giving the deceased an equal Chance with the rest ; for he allowed, that in the Exigency we were drove to, it had been held agreeable to right Reason, and good Policy, that one should rather be sacrificed, than that all should inevitably perish ; therefore, added he, as this Offender hath justly forfeited his Life to the Community, my Opinion is that he dies ; and that the most Benefit may redound his from Death, let him be slain in such a Manner, as that we may all reap the Advantage of his Flesh, for our necessary Support. He is a lusty Fellow, and by sparing Meals, may last us some Time. Let what is not absolutely necessary for our present Support be pickled up, and used moderately ; we have Water still left, and Providence (e'er his Body is consumed) may relieve us by some other Means, or it is my Opinion, (and I shall readily offer myself to the Lot with you all) that another of us must be offered, to the Preservation of the Crew.

By

By how much the more we were distressed under our present Calamity, by so much the more were we elevated, at the pleasing Prospect of such ample Provision as seemed to offer for our Relief; for the Quality weighed but little with our Senses, so that the Quantity would but suffice: Nay, even my Wife, tender as she was by Nature, had not the least Syllable to offer in Arrest of the Sentence, or Disposal of the Prisoner, according to our Leader's Motion; nor was the Execution sooner voted, than performed, by beheading the Criminal; and in less than twenty Minutes we had each of us (without the least Shew of Remorse at the Action) devoured a Part of the Body, raw as it was: Nay, so violent were we in our Gratification, that neither by foul Means or fair, were we to be restrained from glutting ourselves with so delicious a Morfel; till our Captain drawing his Cutlass, and covering the Remains of the Body, declared, that he would cleave down the next Man that offered to touch

touch a Mouthful more ; then sending for an Ax, he chopped it to Pieces on the Deck, and having salted it, kept it under Lock for further Use.

Tho' this Scheme had passed without the least Pretence to Pity from any one, for the Horror of the Fact ; yet it passed not without Grumblings for that they were not allowed larger Portions ; this our Leader perceiving, declared, that to the best of his Ability, he had acted for their own Benefits ; as first, by overcharging themselves, they would have run the Hazard of Sicknefs ; and by the Waste made of the Provision, have the sooner reduced one of themselves to the like Circumstances with the Deceased : That we fed not now to pamper our unruly Appetites, but meerly for the due Sustainments of our Beings, which were to be preserved by] a little, as long perhaps, and longer, than by much, tho' not so agreeably.

Thus,



Thus, his Judgment, by reducing the Argument to our own Case, reclaimed at last, each dissenting Voice to an Acquiescence.



## C H A P. XVI.

*Reflections on the Inordinacy of the human Passions. Captain proposes Lots who shall die for the Rest. Fell upon La Bruce. Distress of the Author. Struggles at parting. Relieved by the Capture of a large Fish. Description of it. Espy a Sail. The Dutchman relieves the Crew. Takes the Author, La Bruce, and Malack on Board.*

**I**T is surprising to what Inordinacy the Affections of Mankind will run, upon the suddenest Alteration of their Circumstances in Life. We, who were for several Days past all Lamentation, Wailing, and Despair, to the greatest Excess imaginable ; having now a Store, tho' but a small one, of Provision before-hand, and having received so reasonable a Refreshment from the last Meal, failed not of expressing it, by the most visible Tokens of

of our Countenances and Actions, even in such Manner, as if no Fear of further Want was to succeed. We, I say, who had for some Time been driven just at the Mercy of the Wind and Waves, regardless of what became of us, and contributing not the least Means for our own Assistance, having received new Life and Vigour, consulted the Compass, rehandled our Tackling, and proceeded with that Alacrity in our Voyage, as if no Evil had hitherto befallen us; and our Allowance was daily delivered to us, as regular as heretofore. But lo! Time, the Consumer of all Things, wore out our Hopes of Relief with our Food; and the last Morsel being sparingly swallowed down, we returned to our wonted Dejection and Misery again.

After two whole Days and Nights absolute fast, our Captain (who by the Authority we had invested him with, took upon him to be our Spokesman) called us all together into the Cabin, where he told us,  
that

that the Despair which prevailed in each of our Countenances, seemed to presage some future Event, as dismal as that which had lately happened ; for that though we were Men ; yet our Distresses might urge us to the Commission of some detestable Act against the Lives of each other ; therefore, as there was now a Necessity, that the whole Crew must either be supplied, or soon perish ; and as no Relief appeared, but from the Death of one of us for the Support of the rest ; he was ready to put it to the Lot with us, who should be the Sufferer.

“ Gentlemen, said he, let not the taken Person complain of his Fate ; for I’ll promise you, should it fortune to be myself, I shall readily submit to the Stroke, and rejoice in my last Moments, at the happy Disposal of my Corpse, if it may, in the Event, prove but the Redemption of any one Soul amongst you, from the Dread of our present Calamity. We are to consider,  
that



WILLIAM BINGFIELD, *Esq*; 187

that one, or all, must fall; and should it prove this, we are all in the same Predicament. Shall we not then heartily concur in each others Relief, where each has the Chance of Surviving?"

There being no Alternative, we all slowly consented, and the Lots were cast; when, O horrible! Can I utter it! My dear, my loving Wife, was marked out for the Victim. Had it been myself, I had gloried in it; but could not contain my Temper at the Thought of her suffering in this Manner. She received her Doom with a Smile, and taking me by the Hand, "Mr. *Bingfield*, said she, farewell. How happy were I, to be the Instrument of prolonging your Life, but for a Day; yet Heaven only knows, that it will not be for Years to come."

My Passions were not then so alert as they had been; but yet, her Words were as ten thousand Daggers sheathed in my Soul.

Soul. I beheld, with Trembling, each Eye  
 around me, greedy for Feasting upon that  
 lovely Creature, who might have graced  
 the Bed of the proudest Monarch; and  
 grudging me the Parley of a short parting  
 Word with her. “ No, said I, my  
 “ dearest *La Bruce*, the Lot is fallen on  
 “ me, not you; for can you imagine,  
 “ that I, who have so often glowed in  
 “ the Embraces of those lovely Limbs,  
 “ can submit to nourish my mortal Frame  
 “ with that Repast Heaven has provided  
 “ for the Soul? No, my Love, said I,  
 “ thou art Food for Angels only; thy  
 “ Husband for Mankind. O may it ne-  
 “ ver again come to thy Turn, till Pro-  
 “ vidence shall send Help to the Crew !”

Then snatching up a Cutlass that lay by,  
 I was about to plunge it into my own  
 Breast; which she suspecting, interposed,  
 clasped me in her Arms, and joining her  
 Body close to mine; “ Now strike, said she,  
 that Arm’s of Force to find its Way thro’  
 both ;

both; for but through mine, shall it ever reach thy Blood. No, either let me fall, by Lot my Due, or we'll together make one tragic Exit."

I was sensible that she would not permit me to fall alone in Lieu of her, and was about to strike; but observing that our passionate Scene drew Tears from each Beholder, and that they rather softened into Compassion for us, I with-held my Hand a Moment, further to urge my Request for sparing her own Life; when one of the Crew, who (melted with our Distress) had turned his Head from the approaching Spectacle, cried out, a Fish! a Fish! This Sound drew every Eye to the Gun-nell, and each Invention was on the Stretch, how to obtain the Prize; for though it floated it was not Dead; but observing that notwithstanding all its Endeavours, it could not sink, they struck a barbed Iron into its Body, and with the Help of our Tackle drew it on Board, where it ap-  
peared

peared so lively, that till they had cautiously chopped off about three Foot from its Tail, happy was he that stood furthest from its Reach. It was about sixteen Feet long, and two Yards and a Half round the Girt.

This noble Acquest sent our Captain to me, with Excess of Joy in his Countenance. “ Sir, said he, restrain your Sorrow for your Lady ; Providence hath preserved you for each other by this most fortunate Accident, whereon I hope, we shall be able to subsist, till the same wise Hand will please otherwise to dispose of us. At least, we have a Reprieve from further immediate Bloodshed.”

We then went with him to the Fish, at the further End of the Deck ; but it had been so disabled by the Loss of its Tail, that it was altogether motionless. So that with a Blow or two on the Head with the Butt



Butt of the Axe, they quite dispatched it. Whilst the Crew were thus employed, my Wife and I, being truly sensible to what Author we owed the Preservation of both our Beings, retiring into the Cabin, vented our Praises in the most exalted Strains of Gratitude to our merciful Benefactor.

At our Return to the Deck, they had just ript up the Belly of the Fish, when its Intrails burst out, and with them as fair and large a Liver, as ever I saw extracted from an Ox; but somewhat presenting monstrous large, and hard in its Paunch, we laid open his Under-jaws quite to the Throat, to come at the Entrance of it; when we discovered what had created it such Pain as to prevent its sinking: It was a large Fish which it had swallowed, Tail foremost, whose Gills, having each a sharp Spike next the Shoulder, they spreading as the Head approached to the Gullet of the Devourer, had hooked themselves into each Side of the Creature's Throat, and prevented

prevented the Head from following the rest of the Body, which almost choaked the great Fish.

Here we had a double Prize ; for the smaller Fish, upon taking it out Whole, and almost yet alive, was as much as one Man could handle, and must at least have weighed Half an Hundred Weight, the great one weighing little (if any Thing) less than a Quarter of a Ton. We went all Hands to work upon the small Fish first, which being but light Diet, we feasted upon without Controul, devouring very near Half of it ; but we had much better have been restrained, as we were before : for they who had eaten most, had least in their Stomachs before Night, and were moreover so sick, with the Discharge, that they heartily repented of their Folly.

We salted down several Casks of this Fish, which lasted us a great while, till we had repaired all our Tackle, and had gotten

ten

ten into Sailing Order again ; but we had not been many Days before the Wind, e'er we spied a Sail, which not bearing towards us, we fired a Gun, and then another, as Signals of our Distress, and at Length were answered, and she bore down right upon us.

Now were our Hearts all Lightsomness and Joy, no further Prospect of Slaughter before our Eyes ; and as our Fish had not only recruited our Flesh, but Spirits, we pushed boldly up to meet her. We hailed her, enquiring of what Country : She answered, of *Holland*. Whither bound ? To *Java*. Then stating our Case, we begged that they would relieve us, having been almost starved.

The *Dutchman* shewed no Backwardness in assisting us, but seeing so many of us, with a good tight Ship under us, wondred we should have been so long from Port, when several were within fifty Leagues of

us; till we informed him the Reason of our being there, and our Nescience in Maritime Observations; he then offering to direct our future Course, and to give us Water to help out for the Remainder of our Voyage, told us, that we must shift for ourselves.

The *Portugueze* Sailors were well enough content with the *Dutchman's* Civility, they being desirous of getting Home as soon as possible; but for my Part, I had rather been landed on some desolate Island, than to have returned with them: So that I desired the Skipper to receive myself, my Wife and Servant on Board, and that I would gratefully satisfy him for our Passage, not in the least concerning myself whither he was going to.

The Skipper no sooner smelt a Reward coming, then he snapt at us for his Passengers; when quitting the *Portugueze*, and wishing them a safe Voyage,  
we



we went on Board him, taking our Treasure with us ; for the Pyrates, on quitting their own Vessel for ours, had left behind them the Goods they had before plundered us of.



## C H A P. XVII.

*Relation of an Adventure of the Captain's.  
Took up a black Woman many Leagues at  
Sea. Produces her. She proves Ma-  
lack's Mistress. Tokens of their Affec-  
tion. He recounts her Story. Agree ne-  
ver to leave the Author.*

**H**AVING so happily freed ourselves from our starving Companions, and gotten on Board a well-supplied Vessel again, my Wife and I enjoyed ourselves like reasonable Creatures once more, having great Deference paid us by the Captain, to whom, at Times, we gave an Account of some of our Adventures, as he also gave us of several Occurrences, which in his Sea-faring Way of Life, at Times, had befallen him; but says he, I had an exceeding odd Accident happened to me about a Month ago; as I was sailing many Leagues from Port, some of my Men reported,

ported, that they saw the Head of some Creature (as they took it for) above Water, at a Distance from the Ship, which they supposed must either be that of a Fish, or some other Sea Animal; for that they could visibly perceive it to move, desiring me to take my Glass, and observe it. I did so, but it was a good Space before I had made out what it should be; tho', as they said, it was plainly in Motion, and that rather obliquely, from the Ship; till taking another Look, I plainly discerned somewhat like Eyes; but the Dazzle of the Water was so great, that I could not be positive. However, as it was but fetching a small Compass that would clear it up to me, I ordered the Helm a-Weather, and drove round it.

On my nearer Advance, it appeared by the Head and Face to be a Negroe swimming; but what, says I, can possibly have brought him to this Distance from Land? For I could see no Boat or Canoe near;

Then, What should be the Reason of his avoiding the Ship thus? For the very Noise of our Sails, and the Dash of the Waters, must have reached his Ears, if his Eyes have not gained a Sight of us? Being come within fifty Yards of him, I hollowed out, when, tho' he turned his Head and saw us, he still keeping his Way, I manned out my Boat with eight Hands to take him; but he (as we took him to be) dived backwards and forwards under the Boat, and shewed great Reluctance, employing every Means that he could to avoid us; till at last, my Men catching her, (for it was a young Woman) brought her on Board to me. I had her into my Cabin, used her gently, did every Manner of Thing in my Power to please her, offered her Victuals, Wine, Sweetmeats; but all the Art that ever I could use, would not make her in the least tractable, or compliant to any Thing I proposed to her. Infomuch, that I had conceived a Notion of her being a Savage  
Sea



Sea Monster, and not a reasonable Creature, or one of the Human Species ; notwithstanding her Similitude to us.

The Captain having roused our Curiosity, I desired to know whether she was living, or if he knew what was become of her ? He replied, that she was still living, but chose the darkest Recesses, where he believed she would confine herself till she died, without Victuals or Drink, if he did not daily carry it to her, and by good Words, and obliging Behaviour, almost compel her to eat it ; for he said, that he had declared, it should be Death to any of the Crew, even to converse with, much more to offer her any Rudeness.

My Wife and I both longed to see this unaccountable Creature, that the Captain had given us such a Description of, and begged we might be favoured with a View of her ; but, lest it should put my Wife to the Blush, I asked him, Whether she was still naked as ever ? He told me, No, for that he had given her a Napkin to tie round

her Middle; and that, said he, was the only Thing she ever seemed to be thankful for. The Captain adding further, that he often made her come up into his Cabin, giving her a Dram or a Glas of Wine, which she would now readily accept; but so soon as she had Opportunity, would sneak off again, into the dark Corners; I desired the Favour of him to fetch her.

When she entered the Cabin, for the Captain drove her in before him, I was prodigiously pleased with her Appearance; for of the black Kind, I think I never beheld any Thing so beautiful, so strait, well proportioned, and gracefull in my whole Life. We would have had her to sit down, but could no Ways persuade her to it; for she was in Pain to be gone again; but the Captain had locked the Door. We gave her a Glas of Punch, which she drank, and held me out the Glas to take from her; when having viewed her with Delight for some Time, and recollecting some few  
Words

Words that *Malack* had used when I first knew him ; I, in his Dialect, asked her, how she did, being desirous of Satisfaction, whether she knew the Use of Speech. She seemed a little brighter upon my asking that Question, and muttered something, but I could not comprehend what.

It then recurring to my Mind, that possibly *Malack* and she might understand each other; I told my Wife, that I would call *Malack*; which Word I had no sooner uttered, than she ran her Head in my Face, and laying her Hand on mine, repeated *Malack, Malack*, two or three Times ; but no more like my pronouncing of the same Word, than had a Dog barked somewhat like it. The Captain imagining by her Earnestness, that she meant me some Mischief, arose to make her desist ; when I desired him to be easy, for that I was under no Apprehension of Ill from her ; then stepping to the Cabin Door, and calling out *Malack*, her Eyes glowed like Coals of

K 5
Fire,

Fire, and she looked with Excess of Pleasure on me; insomuch, that the Captain, who had never before seen any Thing like it, was quite amazed: But no sooner had *Malack* set Foot within the Door, than she flew at him, and he at her, clinging round each others Neck, kissing and clasping each other, and there was such a Clatter and Outcry in their Language between them, that to us Spectators, it was far the most agreeable Entertainment we had ever beheld; nor were they to be parted, by any Thing that we could say to them: So that finding them in such close Engagement and Conference, my Wife judged it but Decent for us to quit the Room, and beckoning the Captain out, we left them together for near an Hour.

We sat down upon the Deck, considering, whence all this Joy to these two poor Creatures could arise; for surely, said I, this cannot be the Mistress *Malack* hath so often mentioned. The Captain then enquiring



quiring where I picked up *Malack*, I replied, that I knew not ; but gave him the History of my delivering him, just before he was to have been slaughtered. He replied, that then it must be on some of the unfrequented Islands, to which I agreed that it was ; and that surely there had never lived a more trusty, faithful, and loving Fellow in all the World ; that he had stood me in the Stead of Father, Brother, Friend and Servant ; and my Wife adding, that she verily believed, he would now lay down his Life to preserve either of ours, the Captain acknowledged it to be so valuable a Character, that few Persons were to be found now a Days amongst Christians, so replete with Gratitude.

When we had chatted away near an Hour, neither *Malack* or his Lady appearing, the Captain and I went softly to the Cabin Door, to see if they were not asleep, for we heard not the least Stir ; but so far were they from it, that they were both  
still

still in their former Employment, with their Faces nestling in each others Breasts, just as we had left them ; nor when there Love-fit wou'd have concluded, was it very easy to have guessed, had not we slept in and interrupted them.

*Malack*, said I, Who have you met with here, that you rejoice to see so ? O Neve, says he, my dear *Hormunka*, that I left behind me when I went to die, and you freed me. O my dear *Hormunka*, then he kissed her again. But how came it to pass, said I, that the Captain should find her in the Sea, at such a Distance from Land ? O Neve, replied *Malack*, there is the charming *Hormunka* ; Where you meet so good, so kind, so loving *Hormunka* ? O, me tell you, me tell you whole all. Hold a little, said I, let me call your Nets ; O, ay, she hear all the loving *Hormunka*, said *Malack*.

I then

I then giving my Wife a Call, “ My Dear, said I, *Malack* has met with his Mistress and is going to give an Account how she came to be out at Sea, when the Captain took her up; now, as I doubt not the Agreeableness of that Entertainment to you, I have called you, to partake the Pleasure of it with me.”

I shall give you here *Malack's* History of his Lady, in his own Words in *English*; who, after kissing her again and again, and piercing her with his Eyes like Darts, through and through, began. “ When  
 “ poor *Malack* was take Prisoner in de  
 “ Wars, fighting for his Broder, King  
 “ of *Barka*, he left de ever dere *Hormun-*  
 “ *ka* be-hind im, he love her, she love  
 “ him, long, long Time, derely, derely.  
 “ O! how could *Malack* leave *Hormunka*!  
 “ But he must die, must feste Enemies.  
 “ You, Neve, make me free Man. Now  
 “ dere *Hormunka* was go to die, she say.  
 “ O dere *Hormunka*! wen she he-re me  
 die,

“ die, and den tink me ded. Her Fader,  
 “ great Lord, make her great Sweet-  
 “ heart, Great Man. She no marry, she  
 “ no marry, she die wid *Malack*; *Ma-*  
 “ *lack* die, she no live. She linger, she  
 “ pine, she go die, she go no Broad.  
 “ She he-re from her Maid, her Sweet-  
 “ heart tell her, *Malack* no kill, but live.  
 “ De great Man beat *Malack* Enemy,  
 “ save *Malack*.

“ O dere *Hornumka*! She see him,  
 “ he say fame Ting, swear fame Ting,  
 “ saw fame Ting, wid own Eyes: Was  
 “ like to die dere. Tell me, *Hormunka*  
 “ say, we-re *Malack* live? He say, we-re.  
 “ she fly to de Sea, she swim, and swim,  
 “ she find no Land, till he-re she find  
 “ *Malack*; O, my De-re *Hormunka*!

*Malack's* Story, tho' but short, was ve-  
 ry expressive, and delivered in such an  
 Extasy, that we could no Ways avoid sim-  
 pathizing in his Joys; and poor *Hormunka*  
 who



who was now become a conversable Creature, appeared as pleasant and agreeable a Companion, as ever I met with, (for *Malack* interpreted between us) and she would rally and joke, with all the Freedom imaginable. My Wife studied her Dialect, and taught her *English*, growing exceedingly delighted with her; but it was with the utmost Difficulty, that we could muster up any Thing to cloath her with, that she might look somewhat Womanly : At last, the Captain rummaged out an old Nightgown, which, with some Alterations, my Wife wrought up into a decent Garment, with which she was exceedingly delighted.

I told *Malack*, that now he had met with his Mistress, I supposed, she would persuade him to seek his own Country again; but he assured me, that he was so far from any Inclination to it, that wherever I was, their Duty would be to attend me, and hoped his Nefs would give *Hor-munka* the Pleasure of waiting her Commands.

mands. I replied, that we had led a very vague Life hitherto; but should we ever be so happy as to attain the *English* Shore, I hoped we should there be settled for the Remainder of our Days; and since they both desired it, *Hormunka* and he should never leave us.



## C H A P. XXIII.

*Touch at one of the Spice-Islands. Captain sends for Hormunka on Shore. Sells her there. Leaves the Author and Malack on Shore. Carries off La Bruce. Author mad at being so tricked. Hires a Vessel to sail after her to Malabar. A Tempest the Night before he sails. Author is raving for the Delay. Hear a Ship in Distress. Go on Board her. Finds his Wife. Bring the Ship to Port.*

**W**E were at this Time touching at one of the Spice-Islands, for a few Days; when the Captain, who had hitherto behaved very worthily, being on Shore, sent his Boat to bring off *Hormunka* to him. The poor Creature was surprized at the Message, not imagining what the Captain should want with her on Shore, and alone too. She expressing her Concern to *Malack*, he informed me of the Orders, who

who was at as great a Loss for the Reason of such a Proceeding as *Malack* was ; but the poor Man having promised to go with her, my Wife engaged me to be of the Party.

The Captain, on our Arrival, was abashed at the Sight of *Malack* and me ; but having another Person in close Conference with him, we walked carelessly about till they should have done. It was not long before I heard the Person in Discourse with the Captain say, " Is not the Man to be disposed of ? I should like him, he is a strong-built Fellow." I could not conceive the Meaning of this ; but it appeared to me, as if the Captain was certainly disposing of the Negroes, at least of the Woman. I had scarce formed my Conjecture into proper Mode, before he called *Hormunka*, and in my Hearing (taking her Hand, and delivering it to the Stranger) told her, she must go with him.

The



The poor defenceless Creature, looked behind at me, and *Malack*, hanging back with all her Force, and not knowing what they were about to do with her, refused to follow him, who was drawing her along by the Hand. I could then refrain no longer, for *Malack* was already run to her Assistance, and had I not interposed, had certainly knocked the Purchaser on the Head, his Passion grew so impetuous; but I soon, by a Word, quieting him, applied myself to the Stranger, desiring to know the Meaning of his Violence to my Servant's Wife? "How! Sir, said the Stranger." "Yes Sir, replied I, my Servant's Wife. This Man has for many Years been mine, and having been absent from his own Country, has met with her, who was on her Travels to seek him, and he being my Property, all his is equally so too." The Gentlemen replied, that he wondered Captain *Ruyter* should offer to impose upon him a disputable Property; but as he had paid him

him an hundred Dollars for her, unless I could procure him a Return of his Money, he would by no Means part with her, for any Pretence of mine.

I then looked about for the Captain, but during our Debate, he had sneaked off, and by this Time, having taken Boat, was got good Part of his Way to the Ship. This, I own, gave my Spirits a terrible Shock; so, thinks I, we are now finely tricked, indeed. The Captain will hoist Sail, and leave us all behind him: But then, what would become of my Wife? For she must either sustain his Insults while on Board with him, or perhaps he may give her the Slip, upon some other Shore.

Whilst these, and other such like Cogitations were distracting my Brain, I begged the Gentleman to hollow after the Captain, to bring him back again; but he replied, that he had no further Business with him,  
having

having bought his Slave, and paid for her. I then used all the noisy Means in my Power, for inclining the Captain to return ; but he gave me the deaf Ear, and e'er long, he being arrived at the Ship, we saw her under Sail, steering off from the Shore.

I was at my Wits End for Madness, to think how I had been bit; and tho' I mustered up all my Resolution, could yet conclude upon nothing, that would afford me the least Relief. To use Opposition or Force against the Person of a fair Purchaser, would be a Rashness inexcusable, in a Country where we were unknown, nor likely to get off again ; for the least that we could expect was, to have every Arm against us.

Composing myself therefore, under my Misfortune, by the best Means in my Power, I applied to the Stranger in a friendly Manner, giving him to understand,

stand, that I had borne the Queen of *England's* Commission, that I had a Wife on Board the Captain, and Goods of great Value, which it seemed to me probable, that the Captain intended to defraud me of, at least, if he meant no Injury to my Wife, which I scarce durst venture to conceive, for the Horror it gave me. I told him, I was an *Englishman*, and that our State being at Amity with his, we ought to treat each other as Brethren, and not to prey one on the other. That could I by any Means follow the Captain, I had sufficient Effects on Board, to make very ample Recompense, to any one who would assist me in recovering the Ship; and that I would be no Ways backward in my Gratitude; for I wanted not to distress the Man, but to recover my own Property. I then stated the Hardship I had undergone, in so moving a Manner to him, that observing me to behave like a Gentleman, he seemed much to compassionate me.

By



By this Time a Number of Persons, of all Ranks, had collected themselves about us, each anxious for hearing my Story, which, that I might give no Offence, I was obliged to repeat several Times over, still offering a very handsome Gratuity to the Person who would carry me to *Java*, whither I assured them the Captain was bound. At length, a jolly young Fellow standing by me, told me he was to depart in four or five Days for *Malabar*, and that if I would satisfy him, he would touch at *Java*, and land me there.

We were not long agreeing upon Terms, and I rested as contented as my Reflections upon my Wife's Distress would permit me, I agreed also with the Purchaser of *Hormunka*, for an hundred and ten Dollars for her Ransom, and proposed to leave *Malack* with his Mistress; for I judged that it would be Death to both, to part them again.

I thought

I thought every Day a Year till I was upon my Voyage, and gave the Master of the Vessel no Rest, by my spurring on his Preparations; till on the fifth Night, he gave me positive Assurance of sailing the next Morning, if Wind and Weather permitted. I went to Bed early, in Order to my being on Board by Peep of Day, the Vessel lying in a little Cove close to the Shore; but about Midnight, was awakened by a violent Shock of the House I was in, which I took for the Shock of an Earthquake, it was so forcible; nor was I well rouzed, before I was convinced that it could only be Wind. for it now raged with such Impetuosity, that I was compelled to rise for my own Security, being each Moment apprehensive of being buried in the Ruins of the Building.

I sought the Street, where many more were collected, to avoid the like impending Danger; but the Coverings of the Houses, Branches from the Trees, and the Spray  
of

of the Sea fell around, and over us so thick, that we were in no less Danger abroad, than within Doors. In this melancholy Situation, did my Time pass till Morning, when the Storm was so far from abating, that it had rather increased, and lay full in upon the Shore; so that to my inexpressible Grief, I was but too well convinced that it was no sailing Weather for me.

The Conflict of my Spirits, on that Occasion, was so tumultuous, that I could scarce refrain from arraigning the Methods of Providence. Surely, said I, this Tempest is stirred meerly on my Account, to put a Bar to my Felicity, and dash all future Prospect of ever communicating with my dear Wife again. What have I been guilty of, that should have drawn down this Vengeance on my Head? I am the only Person anxious for departing, and I am not to quit the Shore. I began to wish that we had sailed the foregoing Day; for then, said I, by this Time I had been past

Sensation of these intolerable Reflections; I had sunk, and been lost to Sorrow; I had then been at eternal Rest; but now, shall from this Moment, compute the *Æra* of my future Miseries.

I grew so raving at Length, that I was past restraining my Passions, by any Reason that I could bring to my Assistance; I would call over my Wife's Name, forty Times together, and, in my Delirium had certainly cast myself into the Sea, had I not been prevented; when some of the People, having Compassion on me, put me to Bed, and taking proper Means by Bleeding, and otherwise, recovered me to my right Mind again; but it was not till the third Day, when the first Thing that I can say I was fully sensible of, was, the Wind still roaring, though not with its former Fury; I then enquired after my Ship, and whether it was sailed; when I was informed, though very tenderly, that it having received Damage by the Winds, would



would want some Repairs, before it could possibly be put to Sea.

It seemed some Comfort however, that she was not failed without me; but so much Time had lapsed since my Wife had left me, that I was under a thousand Perplexities, lest I should never more meet with her; tho' I was determined to pursue the Trace of her, till Nature should be exhausted, but I would recover her again, if possible.

The next Morning, as I lay musing in Bed before Day-break, I heard the firing of several Guns, which continuing till it was Light, I looked from my Window, which fronted the Sea, where I conjectured, that I saw something blackish at a vast Distance; but could not discover what it was; till presently, I saw a Flash, and soon heard another Gun, which satisfied me that it was a Ship in Distress, and that, by the Flash arising from thence, they must have been

Signal Guns that I had before heard. I had undergone too many Hardships myself, not to compassionate others in like Circumstances ; so that I scarce stayed to dress myself, before I had raised the Family where I lodged, and several of my Neighbours ; representing to them what I had seen, and heard, and that I was well assured it was some Vessel, which perhaps was sinking, without immediate Relief.

The Wind being now much abated, though there was still a swelling Sea, we all ran to the Shore ; when the Ship either having drove nearer to us, or the Day having brightened more than when I first discovered it, we plainly discerned it to be a large Vessel, without the least Stump, to all Appearance, shewing itself above Deck. I begged the People of the Country to send some Boats to its Assistance, but they were afraid to venture out so far, though the Sea was not very hazardous ; till I proffered myself to the Service, condemning  
the

the Uncharitableness of those, who would run no Risque to save their Fellow-Creatures ; upon this, two or three offering to go with me, we had presently Boats enough to follow us ; for then few were willing to stay behind.

We put forward with two large Fishing Boats, manned with six Men each, pushing with all our Might towards the distressed Barque, which the nearer we approached to, looked but the more like a Wreck. The poor Souls on Board, were all upon the Watch, and making Signals to us to come on. She was so deep in the Water, when we came within Distance of observing her, that stretching with all our Force, we were afraid she would have sunk outright, before we could have reached her.

It is impossible for any Man, who has not before laboured under the same Circumstances with myself, to form any, the least Idea of the Agitation of my Mind,

at the Sight of my Wife, on the Side of the sinking Ship; my Faculties, both for Speech and Action, were under such an immediate Stupefaction, that had the Vessel that Moment sunk in my Reach, I am satisfied I could not have extended an Hand, to have saved her from drowning; but she observing me in that Condition, and calling to me for Help; that, forcing a Flood of Tears from my Eyes, gave Vent to my stifled Passion, and rendered me capable of assisting her.

I gave her my Hand, took her into my Boat, (which was very near as high above Water as the Ship) and kissed her; then asking her what was become of Captain *Ruyter*? She told me, that on Sight of me in the Boat, he was run between Decks (where she was sure he must be to his Middle in Water) vowing, that he chose rather to perish with the Ship, than to confront me. I asking her, What she had in her Bundle under her Arm? She told me,



me, my Treasure, which I had left on Board ; for that it had lain neglected, till she saw the Boats coming ; but that then she seized it, being in Hopes of saving it with herself.

I could not suffer the Captain to perish, or farther distress a bruised Reed ; so that having fixed my Wife in Safety, I stept over the Gunnel, and called Captain *Ruyter*, assuring him, that I remained his Friend, and the more so, being informed of his Remorse for the late inconsiderate Action. The Captain demanded, Whether I could forgive him ? I replied, that I could, and did, now I was in Possession of my Wife again. He replied, that I was then a better Christian than himself, who scarce could have done the like ; then ascending the Deck, I gave him my Hand, and he begged my Pardon.

I enquired into the State of his Ship, which he replied was sinking, meerly for

Want of Hands to supply the Pump ; for that his Men were so fatigued with Labour, Night and Day, that they could no longer raise the Handle. I replied, that if there was but a Possibility of bringing her to Land, we would tend her with the Boats, and that our fresh Hands should bestir themselves at the Pump ; this, he imagining not to be impracticable, I set the Example myself, and encouraging the new Men to assist, we soon lowered the Water, and by this Time, several other Boats arriving, we so drained her, that not having much above a League to Land, and the Wind favouring, before Evening we had secured her out of Danger.

C H A P.

## C H A P. XIX.

*La Bruce cut to the Heart. Gives Account of the Captain's Behaviour. Reflections on the Right to make Slaves. Recover Hormunka. Sail to Malabar. Meet a Kinsman of La Bruce's. Gains an Account of her Family.*

**F**INDING myself at Leisure once more, to solace with my loving Wife, I enquired, How she had fared in my Absence? She told me, that upon the Captain's Return to the Ship, it was visible that somewhat had very much chagrined him. That she did not then imagine, but that he was to have gone off again, till hearing him give Orders for Sailing, she, in a Surprise, demanded, Where he had left me? He replied, on Shore. She insisting that the Boat might be sent for me; he sharply replied, that he knew of no Business I had there, and that, as it was without his Know-

ledge I went thither, I might get off again as I could.

In vain, she said, were all her Cries and Intreaties, he was wholly regardless of them, and kept on his Way. I told her, I hoped that he had offered no Insult or Abuse to her; she answered, no; but so far from it, that whenever she could bridle her Indignation sufficiently to talk, or behave calmly to him; he, on his Part, acted with the strictest Honour and Complaisance to her; but, said she, the Tempest had no sooner fallen on us, and brought our main Mast by the Board, beaten in the Head of the Cabin, and torn our Cordage to Shatters, than he desired my Prayers for him, and the Preservation of the Vessel; confessing, that he had been too rash in what he had done, and in leaving you behind him.

The Storm, she told me, nothing abating, the next Day, they perceived the  
Water



Water to rise very fast in the Hold ; when, being fearful of sinking, he came into the Cabin to her ; “ O, says he, this is all come upon us for my Sake ! Wretch that I am ! I betrayed the helpless *Hormunka* to Shore, and what is worse, have sold her to Slavery ; and now is Vengeance up with me and will soon overtake me : Then, what will my ill-gotten Gain profit me ! ” This, she told me, was the first Word she had heard of *Hormunka*’s Servitude. She said, that she had had too many Thoughts of me in her Mind, and her own Safety, to give her Time for Invectives against him, which otherwise she should not have spared, for that expecting the Ship to sink every Hour, she had occupied herself as she thought most prudent, in Preparation for the terrible Event.

The next Day, I waited on the Captain at his Lodgings, taking *Malack*, *Hormunka*, and the Purchaser with me. The Captain turned as pale as a Clout at our Entrance,

Entrance, when I assured him, I came to argue the Case of his Sale of the poor Woman, in a friendly Manner with him ; desiring, that whatever I should say, might be received as such. “ Captain, said I, this Woman you are sensible is a Person contracted to my Friend, and Servant, *Malack* ; and I should have esteemed it an Act of Benevolence in you, as you could not but be apprized how much I interested myself in her Welfare, if you had informed me of any Demand you had upon her, that I might have discharged it ; for you well knew, that she was unable ; when, if I would have made you no Satisfaction, it would then have been soon enough to have sold her for her Keeping.”

The Captain, who since his Escape, had taken somewhat more Heart than he had in his Danger, replied ; that the Woman was his Property, he had made her his Prize, and had an Authority to dispose of her as he saw fit. I answered him, that I  
came

came not now to prove the Legality of his Proceedings, supposing him to be a Man of no Conscience; but I would ask him, as a Man and Christian, whether he could imagine, that our Maker had subjected the Life and Being of one Part of his Creatures to the Will and Caprice of others, of the same Rank? He replied, that he was no Divine, but that it was what was daily done, and he saw no Harm in it; every Man was to take all Advantages that he could to make his Fortune. I admitted it to be so done; but that the Frequency of ill Actions would no Ways lessen their Virulence, tho' it might in some Measure countenance their Perpetration; and I would further agree, that Advantages of making ones Fortune might be pursued; but such only as were justifiable, and such where we could cast no Odium upon our Neighbour, for exercising upon us; but as the Case stood, I told him, that himself had been an Evidence of the Excess of Joy which had accompanied the Meeting

ing of these two Persons; therefore could be no Stranger to the miserable Condition each must have been reduced to, upon their Separation; and begged him to reflect what would have been his own Concern, had any Man taken the same Advantages over him, by a private, or forcible Detainer of his Wife from him for ever.

The Captain replied, that all he had to say was, that he took her up at Sea, where she would have perished without him, and thought therefore, she was fairly his own. "Then, Captain, said I, if you admit that, for Justice, I hope the Rule may fairly hold in all Cases alike. I took you up Yesterday, where you would have perished without me, and must therefore, from your own Argument, insist upon your being my Property; but I am willing to ransom you for the Price of the Woman you have injuriously disposed of."

The



The Captain, not being able to stand it out any longer, the Case being too clearly brought Home to himself, began to confess, that he now thought he had done a wrong Thing; but did not consider it in that Light, at the Time of Sale.

The Purchaser, who had stood by passive till now, demanding then his Money from the Captain, and he would free her; *Ruyter* being a *Dutchman*, could not well tell what to say to it, (for his Countrymen seldom part with the ready, but for some gainful Bargain) till perceiving himself again pressed by my urging his Want of Right to it (for I went so far as to insist, that he, who would for his own private Gain destroy my natural Liberty, would no less scruple to cut my Throat for the like Advantage, was he but sure of escaping;) this, and the Fear of my persisting in it to the last, brought him to a Return of the Money, and we procured her Discharge; after which, I generously made  
the.

the Captain a Present of a Pearl, of about twenty Pounds Value, in Lieu of the Charge and Trouble he had been at, in taking and keeping *Hormunka*, which appeasing him, made all up again.

*Ruyter* had put his Ship upon the Repair, and was in Hopes of sailing in about six Weeks; but I having promised my Wife never to board him again, we took Passage in the Ship I had agreed for before the Storm, she being now refitted; and in her, we arrived in due Time at *Malabar*, where we tarried till some *European* Vessel should arrive, to carry us toward *England*.

Whilst we were waiting here, as my Wife and I were walking about the Town one Day, we met with a near Relation of hers, whom she had not seen for many Years. He had touched there with a Ship just arrived from *France*, and was proceeding

ing to one of the *French* Settlements on the Coast, to reside there. She immediately recollected him, before she informed me who he was; but then directly, telling me that he was her near Kinsman, and repeating his Name to me, I turned about, and called him back, demanding (after some short Compliment) whether he knew that Lady? He looking earnestly at her, replied, no; he could not say that he did; till she smiling, and beginning to speak to him in *French*; Madam *La Bruce*, said he, or I am very much mistaken. Then she calling him by his Name, they renewed their former Acquaintance.

We kept a Correspondence and Intimacy together, during his Stay, which was about ten Days (ourselves being confined almost three Months there;) and had frequent Conferences, about her Relations in *France*; in some of which, he informed her of the Death of her Father, who, by  
the

the Decease of her Uncle in the Wars, where he was a General Officer, had come into all his vast Fortune, which her Father had left, between her, her Sister, and her Mother; that her Sister dying the last Summer, had left all that she had to her Mother, who was living when he left *France*, but in a very declining State of Health. He by all Means advised her therefore, to make *Paris* in her Way to *England*; for that when her Mother should know her to be living, she would undoubtedly make her Heir to all she had; which, if once in other Hands, (her Mother already suspecting her to be dead) would be a difficult Matter to recover again.

I esteemed it to be a most happy Event for us, to have met with this Relation of my Wife's, and we were not long resolving to make *Paris* our first Stage; when luckily for us, the first Ship that arrived,



WILLIAM BINGFIELD, *Esq*; 235

arrived, bound to *Europe*, was a *French* Merchant-man, with the Captain of whom we agreed, and in due Time set Sail.



C H A P.

## C H A P. XX.

*Arrive at Brest. Visit La Bruce's Mother. She dies. Leaves her her Riches. Sail for England. Seek the Author's Mother in Suffolk. Find her in the Park. Faints at Sight of her Son. Introduces La Bruce to her. Account of the Author's Children, and of Malack.*

**W**E might now be said to travel with somewhat of a Family, for *Malack* and *Hormunka* were both upon our Hands, and infinitely serviceable to us. We had a delightful Voyage to *Brest*, where we landed, and after a few Days Refreshment, went Post to *Paris*, and there hiring private Lodging, we soon put ourselves in Condition of appearing in Publick.

We paid our first Visit to *Madam La Bruce*; but tho' my Wife remembered her per-

perfectly well, it was with no small Difficulty that she recollected my Wife; which I imputed to her Disorder, having reduced and weakened not only her Bodily Vigour, but also her Intellectuals; for she had not stirred out of her Room for above twelve Months before. At length, calling her Servant, who had lived most of her Days in the Family, and had brought up my Wife from her Infancy, to assist her Judgment, she no sooner entered the Room, but starting back, “Who do I see! said “she, my young Mistress?” Then running to my Wife, she begged to salute her, it not being the first Time she had so done, she said, by thousands.

“*Doris*, said the old Lady, pray examine well, are you sure that Lady is “my *Isabella*?” “Sure, Madam, said *Doris*, as sure as if she was my own Child.” “I thought, replied the old Lady, that “she might be like her. I would rise my “Dear, added she, if I could, but come  
“kiss

“ kifs me ; and pray, who is that Gentle-  
 “ man ?” “ My Husband, said my Wife.”  
 “ And is he really a good one ? Said the  
 “ Mother.” “ My Wife then replied,  
 “ that it was an improper Season for Ex-  
 “ planations upon that Head, in my own  
 “ Prefence, only rejoined, that I had freed  
 “ her twice from Captivity, had exposed  
 “ my own Life for the Sake of her, and  
 “ that she had found far more of Joy  
 “ and Comfort in Life, since she had  
 “ been my Wife, than she had either be-  
 “ fore suspected, or could have believed  
 “ consistent with the Marriage State.”  
 “ Then, said the old Lady, he shall be my  
 “ Son indeed ; desiring me to come for-  
 “ ward, and salute her.”

She then told us, that she had given  
 over all Expectations of her Daughter's  
 Life, and having quitted all Thoughts of  
 the World, she only waited her Dissolu-  
 tion ; but hoped we might have many  
 Years Enjoyment of each other ; and as  
 her



her Time could be but short, she would not have us leave her House any more, where, at her Death, we should find what would make us very happy. She then ordered her Maid to bring her Will out of her Cabinet; which having taken in her Hand, “ Daughter, said she, imagining “ you to be dead, I had disposed of all “ my Effects, to distant Relations, save “ one thousand Louis d’Ors, which I have “ given to *Doris*; but I will now burn “ this Instrument, when no one can claim “ a Sous but yourself; only remember “ this, that my Legacy to *Doris* must “ still be paid, with such Addition as your “ own Generosity shall make to it; but “ I will have no Diminution of my Do- “ nation, upon any Account.” This we both promised should be performed; and now I looked upon it that I should settle for the Remainder of my Life most agreeably.

We

We had not been at her Mother's more than six Weeks, before she died; nor stayed we longer in *Paris* (after the Funeral than to adjust our Affairs, and procure proper Remittances to *England*; when embarking at *Calais*, we arrived safe at *Dover*.

Our first Tour, after touching at *London* for a few Days, was to *Norfolk*, to find my Mother (if living) for I doubted not but that when she should have heard of my Misfortune, she would have retired thither again, amongst her former Acquaintance; and being under such strong Pre-possession of this, I never once enquired for her in Town; but upon our Arrival in the Country, no one had seen her there, since she left the Place with me: So that having no further Business there, after this Answer, we returned to *London*, and found her living in the very same House at *Whitehall*, which she occupied at my Departure; where the Servant, upon Enquiry,

Enquiry, informed us, that she was taking her Afternoon's Walk in the Park.

I told my Wife that we would go and meet her ~~there~~, for I longed to know whether she remembered me or not ; so we looked carefully all the Way up the *Mall*, for I had such a strong Impression of her in my Mind, that I judged it would be impossible for me to mistake her ; but could not see any one like her. I insisted, that we would go quite round, and if we could not meet her, we would return to her House again.

We went cross the Top of the Park, and down the *Bird-cage-Walk*, but saw nothing of her ; till, towards the Bottom of it, I espied her coming to meet us. My Heart fluttered like a Bird in a Cage, at Sight of her ; but having purposed to pass full in her View, that she might of her own Accord recollect me ; I seemed on her Approach, all secured with my Wife,

VOL. II. M talking

talking and laughing pretty loud, when I observed her to fasten her Eyes upon me, turn pale, but pass me. Said I to my Wife, that dear Woman does not know me; then instantly turning to go after her, I beheld her fallen flat upon the Ground.

I was most surprisingly astonished, and so was my Wife, when both running to her, we endeavoured to raise her up; but she had no more Strength or Motion than a dead Corpse. We removed her however to the Grass, and several Persons instantly coming up, I sent for a Chair, and a Surgeon; but not the least Tokens of Life appeared in her. We had opened a Vein in less than ten Minutes, when she bleeding freely, the Operator pronounced that there was no Danger; but believed, the Lady had received an Injury by some Fright, or Surprize; and that she would soon recover. He used several Means common in such Cases, and in less than  
Half



Half an Hour she was able to sit up in the Chair, and be conveyed Home.

The Surgeon and I had conferred together before she revived, and I informing him of the Cause of her Surprise, he desired me not to be seen by her, till she was at her own House; for that the Sight of me, too soon after the Recall of her Spirits, might cause a Relapse; but if I would give him Leave, he would wait upon her Home, where she would naturally disclose the Occasion of her Disorder to him, and he would then prepare her Mind for my Reception, by gentle Information of my being alive, and that I was attending to pay my Duty to her. He advised me by all Means to leave my Wife at his House, till I had cautiously revealed my Marriage, lest the Knowledge of that also arriving too suddenly, might have an ill Effect.

Being thus instructed, it was about half an Hour after, that I knocked at the

M 2

Door,

Door, when the Surgeon, who had agreed not to leave her till he should see me, gave her Hopes that I was come: But the Interview between us was too affecting to bear a Description, nor can be other than conceived, by Hearts mollified to an Excess of filial and maternal Tenderness, for which Reason, I shall omit it here.

Our first Emotions subsiding by Degrees, we were not long settling all other Matters on a proper Footing; for she enquiring what Lady I had with me in the Park? I replied, my Wife, begging Leave for her Introduction, as the most virtuous and amiable Woman in the Creation. She told me, as my Happiness could not but augment her Joy, she should have equal Interest in her with myself, and was all Impatience till she saw her. I had all along promised myself the sublimest Satisfaction, in presenting my Wife to her myself, and had proposed to have fetched her from the Surgeon's, so soon as her Admission  
was

was consented to by my Mother; but Nature now wrought so forcibly in me, that I would no Ways leave my Mother, for the Prospect of any other Gratification; so was obliged to apply to my Friend the Surgeon, and depute him to that Office. My Mother gave her so loving a Reception, that, if it was possible, the Tenderness of her Expressions for her, exceeded even them for myself; and she paid that Duty and Regard to my Mother, that they became enamoured of each other.

I shall not longer tire my Reader's Patience with the trifling Occurrences of my Life, than to inform him, that my Mother lived several Years afterwards, a true Parent to us both; and that my Wife and self are still living, with five fine Children, the Produce of our Loves, whom we hope to leave our Representatives.

*Ma-*

246 *The TRAVELS of, &c.*

*Malack* and his Wife too, (for they are both now christened, and married) are raising a Progeny, to be transplanted amongst the future Settlements of my Family.

*The End of the Second Volume.*

2 NC 64





